

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 925 Session of 2014

INTRODUCED BY RAPP, OBERLANDER, SANKEY, MUSTIO, COHEN, MURT, BLOOM, BENNINGHOFF, FLECK, R. MILLER, WATSON AND MOUL, JUNE 26, 2014

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a
2 study and report on the scale and impact of wind turbines in
3 this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, Wildlife conservation and energy efficiency should
5 be major considerations in the development of viable sources of
6 alternative energy; and

7 WHEREAS, Wind turbines were once assumed to have no adverse
8 environmental impacts, however, onshore wind energy facilities
9 have been reported to kill thousands of bats and birds and
10 require the clearing of large areas of land; and

11 WHEREAS, Many onshore and offshore wind energy facilities are
12 being planned and constructed without adequately considering the
13 potential or actual effects on wildlife; and

14 WHEREAS, Research and guidance are required before
15 potentially negative impacts on wildlife become severe and
16 irreversible; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint
2 State Government Commission to conduct a comprehensive study on
3 the use of wind turbines in this Commonwealth; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission include
5 in its study the number of wind turbines in this Commonwealth,
6 who owns them, which agencies oversee wind turbines and what
7 happens to them when they are decommissioned; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission list
9 sources and amounts of subsidies for wind turbines, AS COMPARED <--
10 TO OTHER SOURCES OF ENERGY, SUCH AS COAL, NATURAL GAS, NUCLEAR
11 AND OIL; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission include
13 in its study wind turbines' imprint acreage and their effects on
14 wildlife, AS COMPARED TO OTHER SOURCES OF ENERGY, SUCH AS COAL, <--
15 NATURAL GAS, NUCLEAR AND OIL; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission study
17 wind turbines' impact on the electric grid; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, THAT THE JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION REVIEW <--
19 ANY CURRENT REGULATIONS, PERMIT PROCESSES, SETBACKS, FEES AND
20 END OF LIFE CYCLE DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO WIND ENERGY
21 REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND OTHER
22 STATE AGENCIES; AND BE IT FURTHER

23 RESOLVED, THAT THE JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION REPORT
24 ON THE PROGRESS OF WIND ENERGY IN RELATION TO THE ACT OF
25 NOVEMBER 30, 2004 (P.L.1672, NO.213), KNOWN AS THE ALTERNATIVE
26 ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS ACT; AND BE IT FURTHER

27 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report
28 its findings to the Governor's office and the General Assembly
29 within one year of the adoption of this resolution.