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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 102 Session of  
2015

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INTRODUCED BY SAYLOR AND ROEBUCK, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

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A RESOLUTION

1 Establishing the select subcommittee on Technical Education and  
2 Career Readiness to investigate, review and make  
3 recommendations concerning career training programs to ensure  
4 that every student has the opportunity to pursue a meaningful  
5 career.

6 WHEREAS, One of a society's most important responsibilities  
7 is the education of its citizens; and

8 WHEREAS, The citizens of this Commonwealth are educated  
9 through a system of public and nonpublic schools and  
10 institutions of higher education, which includes a wide variety  
11 of secondary level career and technical centers and programs and  
12 postsecondary institutions that focus on career preparation and  
13 training; and

14 WHEREAS, The goal of this Commonwealth's system of education  
15 is to provide each student with sufficient preparation to pursue  
16 meaningful, family-sustaining employment; and

17 WHEREAS, It is important that this Commonwealth remain  
18 competitive in an ever-changing global economy; and

19 WHEREAS, Employers are more likely to locate in regions with  
20 an abundant supply of potential employees; and

1       WHEREAS, Many employers report a strong need for more  
2 technically skilled employees to fill available positions; and

3       WHEREAS, It is important to ensure that the education  
4 available to young people and adults provides the training  
5 necessary for the pursuit of a fulfilling and financially secure  
6 career; therefore be it

7       RESOLVED, That the Committee on Education be authorized and  
8 directed to establish a select subcommittee on technical  
9 education and career readiness to do all of the following:

10           (1) investigate, review and make findings and  
11 recommendations regarding:

12               (i) existing secondary level career and technical  
13 centers and programs and postsecondary institutions that  
14 focus on career preparation and training, including the  
15 partnerships that exist within and among these groups;

16               (ii) how to better foster connections among the  
17 secondary technical education, postsecondary technical  
18 education and business communities in order to promote  
19 thriving career pathways;

20               (iii) how to eliminate negative biases held by  
21 students and parents regarding technical education, and  
22 educate all Pennsylvanians regarding the benefits of  
23 technical education and the many opportunities available  
24 in careers that require technical knowledge and skills;

25 and

26           (2) review other states' best practices and programs in  
27 the area of technical education and career readiness; and

28           (3) develop proposals which:

29               (i) encourage Pennsylvania's secondary and  
30 postsecondary educational institutions to expand career

1 training programs that will help meet the needs of  
2 current and future employers;  
3 (ii) supplement and enhance existing career  
4 programs;  
5 (iii) provide support to the secondary and  
6 postsecondary technical education communities; and  
7 (4) ensure that every student in Pennsylvania has the  
8 opportunity to pursue a meaningful career;

9 and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the select subcommittee consist of six members  
11 of the Committee on Education, with four members appointed by  
12 the chairman of the committee and two members appointed by the  
13 minority chairman of the committee; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the chairman and the minority chairman of the  
15 Committee on Education shall be ex-officio members of the select  
16 subcommittee; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the chairman of the Committee on Education  
18 appoint the chairman of the select subcommittee from among the  
19 members of the select subcommittee; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That the select subcommittee hold hearings, call  
21 witnesses, take testimony and make its investigations at such  
22 places as it deems necessary in this Commonwealth, and may  
23 instruct any person to appear before it to answer questions  
24 touching matters properly being inquired into by the select  
25 subcommittee and to produce books, papers, records, accounts,  
26 reports and documents as the select subcommittee deems  
27 necessary; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Committee on Education assist the select  
29 subcommittee to the fullest extent possible; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the select subcommittee submit a report of its

1 findings together with its recommendations for any appropriate  
2 legislation or other action to the Committee on Education and to  
3 the House of Representatives no later than November 30, 2016.