THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 171

Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, VULAKOVICH, EICHELBERGER, FONTANA, GREENLEAF, BREWSTER, BARTOLOTTA, FOLMER, SABATINA, SCARNATI, WARD AND ALLOWAY, JULY 23, 2015

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, JULY 23, 2015

A RESOLUTION

Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to 1 conduct a study relating to the feasibility and cost-2 effectiveness of utilizing privately owned veterans care facilities to augment the Commonwealth's six State-owned veterans care facilities. 5 6 WHEREAS, There is increased demand for quality care for veterans across this Commonwealth; and 8 WHEREAS, Costs to subsidize veterans care from taxpayers could be offset by utilizing the private sector care facilities; 10 and 11 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Veterans Affairs 12 currently partners with several private sector care facilities; 13 and 14 WHEREAS, The private sector can further assist the department 15 to provide necessary care to veterans and their families; 16 therefore be it 17 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct Legislative Budget and

Finance Committee to conduct a study relating to the cost-

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- 1 effectiveness and opportunities for the Department of Military
- 2 and Veterans Affairs to partner with the private sector to
- 3 provide added care for veterans in Pennsylvania; and be it
- 4 further
- 5 RESOLVED, That the study include:
- 6 (1) The number of veterans in each county waiting to be 7 placed in State veterans care facilities.
- 8 (2) The number of veterans in Pennsylvania eligible for 9 care from the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and 10 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.
- 11 (3) The average cost per day of the care and treatment 12 for a veteran at State-owned veterans care facilities.
- 13 (4) The average cost per day of the care and treatment 14 for a veteran at a privately owned care facility.
- 15 (5) The projected number of veterans who will need care 16 over the next 10 years within this Commonwealth.
- 17 (6) A summary of other states and their respective
 18 programs that allow for public-private partnerships with the
 19 United States Department of Veterans Affairs to offer
 20 additional care for veterans.
- 21 (7) Any additional opportunities that exist to enhance 22 and improve the care for veterans at either a State-owned or 23 privately owned facility;
- 24 and be it further
- 25 RESOLVED, That in compiling this report the Legislative
- 26 Budget and Finance Committee seek input from the Department of
- 27 Military and Veterans Affairs, United States Department of
- 28 Veterans Affairs and any other groups or individuals who may
- 29 have information relevant to this study; and be it further
- 30 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee

- 1 report its findings and recommendations to the Senate no later
- 2 than December 31, 2015.