
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 147 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY GREGORY, SCHMITT, DIGIROLAMO, RYAN, McNEILL,
T. DAVIS, MASSER, MURT, NEILSON, MILLARD, READSHAW,
ZIMMERMAN, TOOHIL, STRUZZI, HOWARD, HOHENSTEIN AND HERSHEY,
MARCH 13, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, MARCH 13, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a
2 comprehensive review of unused properties, buildings and
3 facilities owned by the Commonwealth and how to repurpose
4 those properties, buildings and facilities for use as
5 facilities appropriate for addiction treatment and recovery
6 supports and to issue a report.

7 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has the highest rate of overdose
8 deaths in the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, The life-saving measures being taken by first
10 responders to rescue individuals from the brink of death after a
11 drug overdose is only the first step to recovery; and

12 WHEREAS, A continuum of care for overdose survivors and
13 others who struggle with substance use disorders is critical to
14 their hope for recovery; and

15 WHEREAS, Every possible resource needs to be utilized to
16 address and help prevent the high number of overdoses that occur
17 in this Commonwealth; and

18 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth owns properties, buildings and
19 facilities that are not currently in use; and

1 WHEREAS, Unused Commonwealth properties could potentially be
2 used to address the serious lack of capacity in facilities
3 operated by addiction treatment providers; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint
5 State Government Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of
6 unused properties, buildings and facilities owned by the
7 Commonwealth and how to repurpose those properties, buildings
8 and facilities for use as facilities appropriate for addiction
9 treatment and recovery supports; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission prepare
11 a report of its findings that shall, at a minimum:

12 (1) Identify all unused properties, buildings and
13 facilities owned by the Commonwealth.

14 (2) Determine, after consultation with addiction
15 treatment providers and individuals from the construction
16 industry, how to convert the unused properties, buildings and
17 facilities into facilities appropriate for addiction
18 treatment.

19 (3) Include a map of the available properties, buildings
20 and facilities with an overlay of the number of overdose
21 deaths in each county.

22 (4) Analyze the potential costs of repurposing the
23 unused properties, buildings and facilities, including ways
24 the Commonwealth can encourage private and public
25 partnerships.

26 (5) Develop a list of services that could be provided if
27 the unused properties, buildings and facilities were
28 repurposed, including, but not limited to, substance use
29 disorder treatment programs and recovery support services
30 with or without the support of addiction medications on a

1 hospital, nonhospital, residential or outpatient basis, in
2 addition to recovery schools, recovery housing and recovery
3 community centers with special emphasis on programs near
4 college and university campuses.

5 (6) Contain any information that the Joint State
6 Government Commission determines necessary from the
7 Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Department of
8 General Services, Department of Health and Department of
9 Human Services;

10 and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report
12 its findings to the House of Representatives no later than one
13 year after the adoption of this resolution.