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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

## No. 234

Session of  
1984

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INTRODUCED BY CAWLEY, BELARDI, CAPPABIANCA, PISTELLA, O'DONNELL,  
MANDERINO, WAMBACH, KUKOVICH, CALTAGIRONE, COLE, SEVENTY, FEE  
AND BURNS, MAY 0, 1984

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JUNE 4, 1984

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### A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Speaker of the House of Representatives to appoint  
2 a special bipartisan House committee to study the problems of  
3 the chronic homeless.

4 WHEREAS, There are several thousand Pennsylvania citizens who  
5 are "homeless," who live without permanent shelter and who are  
6 without adequate means of support; and

7 WHEREAS, Chronic homelessness can result from a myriad of  
8 problems including, but not limited to, drug and alcohol  
9 dependency, mental health problems, inability to pay heating  
10 costs or other utility bills, inability to find work or the  
11 impossibility of meeting mortgage or rent payments; and

12 WHEREAS, A large segment of the new breed of homeless are  
13 younger and able to work and be productive members of society  
14 but are in dramatic need of job counseling and training; and

15 WHEREAS, The private and public agencies which have  
16 traditionally provided emergency food and shelter to the  
17 homeless are unable to keep up with demand; and

18 WHEREAS, While the problem is most acute in the urban areas

1 of the Commonwealth, it exists in significant numbers in  
2 nonurban areas as well; and

3 WHEREAS, A unified Statewide approach to the problem is  
4 needed with a consistent set of policies and programs to deal  
5 with the problem; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives  
7 appoint a select committee of eight members, four from the  
8 majority party and four from the minority party to address the  
9 problem of the chronic homeless and propose solutions thereto;  
10 and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the committee may hold hearings within this  
12 Commonwealth. The committee shall have power to administer oaths  
13 and affirmations to witnesses appearing before the committee and  
14 to issue subpoenas under the hand of the chairman; and be it  
15 further

16 RESOLVED, That the select committee report its findings to  
17 the full House of Representatives within 180 days.