

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 38

Session of
1985

INTRODUCED BY REBER, MORRIS, FRYER, GALLAGHER, GREENWOOD AND
SAURMAN, FEBRUARY 26, 1985

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, FEBRUARY 27, 1985

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Speaker to appoint a special committee to
2 investigate a problem relating to the adequacy and
3 availability of insurance for real and personal property
4 against loss caused by radioactive contamination originating
5 from an extraordinary nuclear occurrence at a power
6 generating facility.

7 WHEREAS, The present method of treating the risk of
8 radioactive contamination caused by a nuclear occurrence at a
9 nuclear power generating facility does not provide for direct
10 insurance coverage to property other than nuclear power plants;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The Federal Price Anderson Act limits the liability
13 of nuclear power plant operators and owners for damage to
14 property of persons off-site of a nuclear power plant; and

15 WHEREAS, All property insurance contracts providing insurance
16 against loss or damage to real and personal property exclude any
17 loss or damage to such property caused by nuclear power; and

18 WHEREAS, Nuclear power is an important energy resource to the
19 people of Pennsylvania in the sense that in excess of 16% of our

1 electrical energy is derived from nuclear power; and

2 WHEREAS, Nearly every property owner within this Commonwealth
3 has a potential exposure to or risk of loss to their property
4 from radioactive contamination in the event of a nuclear
5 occurrence that would release radioactive contaminant beyond the
6 confines of a nuclear plant site situated within this
7 Commonwealth or in a state adjacent to this Commonwealth; and

8 WHEREAS, Many property owners in this Commonwealth have
9 expressed concern about the unavailability of nuclear property
10 insurance coverage to protect their investment in such property
11 and have expressed an interest in purchasing nuclear property
12 insurance; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives
14 appoint a nine member bipartisan committee, five from the
15 majority party and four from the minority party, to investigate
16 the problem of the unavailability of nuclear property insurance
17 to property owners in this Commonwealth; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the committee may hold hearings, take
19 testimony and make its investigation at such places as it deems
20 necessary within this Commonwealth; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the committee be specifically charged with
22 identifying any impediments in State or Federal law to the
23 providing of nuclear property insurance and to present a
24 recommendation or recommendations of legislative initiatives for
25 this Commonwealth or the United States Congress to assure the
26 availability of adequate nuclear property insurance to meet the
27 needs of the people of Pennsylvania; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the special committee receive necessary
29 staffing from current staff resources available to the majority
30 and minority caucuses; and be it further

1 RESOLVED, That the special committee report its findings and
2 recommendations to the House of Representatives at least 90 days
3 prior to the end of the session of the General Assembly.