

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 142

Session of  
1985

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INTRODUCED BY GAMBLE, DUFFY, DeLUCA, MICHLOVIC, MURPHY, DAWIDA,  
VAN HORNE, LANGTRY, LEVDANSKY, POTT, BOOK AND MRKONIC,  
JUNE 25, 1985

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, JUNE 26, 1985

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A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting the Port Authority of Allegheny County to make major  
2 organizational and personnel changes in management.

3 WHEREAS, The Port Authority of Allegheny County has failed to  
4 meet the object of the General Assembly established in 1958 of  
5 providing cost-effective, efficient public transportation for  
6 Allegheny County on a self-sustaining basis; and

7 WHEREAS, The Port Authority Transit's operating deficit has  
8 climbed 3,500% in the past 20 years, leading to unforeseen need  
9 for increasing State and Federal subsidies; and

10 WHEREAS, The Port Authority of Allegheny County Investigative  
11 Subcommittee has completed an in-depth investigation into the  
12 financial difficulties of the Port Authority of Allegheny  
13 County; and

14 WHEREAS, The subcommittee has developed a host of management  
15 recommendations which would reduce costs of operations,  
16 including replacing antiquated manual scheduling with  
17 computerized scheduling, broadening the use of private sector

1 contracts for goods and services, employing a private financial  
2 institution to handle currency, establishing an in-house legal  
3 department to reduce the award of expensive outside contracts to  
4 law firms, and using written, competitive bids for insurance  
5 coverage; and

6 WHEREAS, The subcommittee has concluded that the Port  
7 Authority of Allegheny County's financial dilemma could be  
8 resolved by reduction of unnecessary expenses and the efficient  
9 management of labor costs; therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives request the Port  
11 Authority of Allegheny County to develop a set of objectives  
12 whose goal will be the implementation of major organizational  
13 and personnel changes in management. These objectives should  
14 include, but not be limited to:

15 (1) The development of productivity standards based on  
16 fare box revenues.

17 (2) The reduction of the number of board members, a  
18 prohibition on the appointment of public employees, and a  
19 plan to recruit the most qualified individuals for the board.

20 (3) Implementation of a more efficient management and  
21 personnel structure.

22 (4) Provision for an annual and a biennial performance  
23 audit by the county controller.

24 (5) An investment and handling policy for daily  
25 currency.

26 (6) Hiring and promotion policies that favor the most  
27 qualified personnel and skilled tradesmen.

28 (7) The use of private sector contracts for goods and  
29 services through competitive bidding.

30 (8) The modernization of scheduling so that it better

1 takes into account levels of ridership and efficiencies in  
2 operation; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives consider repeal  
4 of section 13.2 of the act of April 6, 1956 (1955 P.L.1414,  
5 No.465), known as the Second Class County Port Authority Act,  
6 which gives Port Authority of Allegheny County employees  
7 bargaining rights in excess of those enjoyed by other public  
8 employees; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives ask that the Port  
10 Authority provide to the General Assembly within 30 days a list  
11 of its objectives for improved management and also the impact on  
12 the Port Authority, financial and operational, of the amendment  
13 of section 13.2 of the Second Class County Port Authority Act.  
14 The Port Authority will report to the General Assembly quarterly  
15 on its efforts to meet the objectives through the 1985-1986  
16 State fiscal year; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives act to insure  
18 that the bargaining rights of Port Authority of Allegheny County  
19 employees are equal to other public employees under the act of  
20 July 23, 1970 (P.L.563, No.195), known as the Public Employee  
21 Relations Act; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives will not consider  
23 any additional tax proposal to fund the Port Authority of  
24 Allegheny County until the recommendations of the legislative  
25 subcommittee on counties are followed by the Port Authority  
26 Transit for the purpose of eliminating mismanagement and waste.