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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

## No. 252

Session of  
1986

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INTRODUCED BY BARBER, DORR, SAURMAN, D. W. SNYDER, MILLER,  
TRUMAN, FOX, LASHINGER, PISTELLA, HARPER, KUKOVICH, ARTY,  
KASUNIC, DAWIDA, STUBAN, CAWLEY, TIGUE, CLYMER, GREENWOOD,  
GLADECK, JOSEPHS, HOWLETT AND STABACK, MARCH 12, 1986

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, MARCH 17, 1986

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### A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to  
2 examine the effectiveness, efficiency, structure and further  
3 need for the Certificate of Need program as it currently  
4 exists in the Commonwealth, and make recommendations.

5 WHEREAS, The Certificate of Need program was established in  
6 Pennsylvania by the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known  
7 as the Health Care Facilities Act, to comply with Federal law  
8 (Public Law 93-649, 88 Stat. 2361); and

9 WHEREAS, The program was intended to provide constraints on  
10 health facility capital expenditures through demonstration of  
11 need and a formal review process; and

12 WHEREAS, Review of Certificate of Need is performed for the  
13 Commonwealth by health system agencies through Federal grant  
14 funds; and

15 WHEREAS, Federal funding for health system agencies is  
16 scheduled to end September 30, 1986; and

17 WHEREAS, Since its inception, the Certificate of Need program  
18 has not undergone major evaluation or change; therefore be it

1       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the  
2   Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a study of  
3   the Certificate of Need program to determine whether the program  
4   has been effective in fulfilling its purposes; and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That the Committee examine the future role for the  
6   Certificate of Need process in view of present health cost  
7   containment efforts in the Commonwealth and the possibility of a  
8   future Federal mandate which may involve controls of State-  
9   administrated Federal health care funds; and be it further

10      RESOLVED, That the Committee evaluate the relative  
11   advantages, if the process is to be maintained, of having the  
12   program administered by the Department of Health, by contracting  
13   it out to health systems agencies or by other means; and be it  
14   further

15      RESOLVED, That the Committee make recommendations with  
16   respect to improving the process, if maintained, and whether  
17   health systems agencies, if maintained, are a viable vehicle for  
18   conducting the Certificate of Need program for the Commonwealth;  
19   and be it further

20      RESOLVED, That a report of this study be prepared for the  
21   House of Representatives by September 1, 1986.