

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 58

Session of  
1993

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INTRODUCED BY PETRONE, WOGAN, SCHULER, DEMPSEY, MANDERINO,  
STURLA, STETLER, McNALLY, THOMAS, KIRKLAND, TIGUE, VAN HORNE,  
FICHTER, ROBINSON, JAMES, HARLEY, TRELLO, MIHALICH, MELIO,  
ULIANA, CURRY, HENNESSEY, LEDERER, M. N. WRIGHT, SANTONI,  
ACOSTA, J. TAYLOR, JOSEPHS, ROONEY AND HERSHEY,  
APRIL 19, 1993

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, APRIL 19, 1993

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Urban Affairs Committee to investigate the  
2 Philadelphia Housing Authority and other housing authorities  
3 as deemed necessary.

4 WHEREAS, All of the citizens of this Commonwealth are  
5 entitled to safe, sanitary and decent housing; and

6 WHEREAS, Housing authorities were created to fulfill this  
7 need for our economically disadvantaged citizens; and

8 WHEREAS, The Philadelphia Housing Authority (PHA) has been  
9 the subject of mismanagement for a number of years resulting in  
10 poor or nonexistent maintenance in occupied units and the  
11 closure of other neglected units, all this coming at a time when  
12 the need for housing amongst poor persons and the homeless has  
13 never been greater; and

14 WHEREAS, This pattern has been repeated in several other  
15 locations in this Commonwealth; and

16 WHEREAS, The Department of Housing and Urban Development has

1 put the PHA in virtual receivership in an attempt to reverse the  
2 years of mismanagement, incompetence and neglect; therefore be  
3 it

4 RESOLVED, That the Urban Affairs Committee conduct a thorough  
5 investigation of the Philadelphia Housing Authority and such  
6 other authorities as it deems appropriate; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the committee may hold hearings, take  
8 testimony and make its investigations at such places as it deems  
9 necessary in this Commonwealth. It may issue subpoenas under the  
10 hand and seal of its chairman commanding any person to appear  
11 before the committee and to answer questions touching matters  
12 properly being inquired into by the committee and to produce  
13 such books, papers, records and documents as the committee deems  
14 necessary. The subpoenas may be served upon any person and shall  
15 have the same effect as subpoenas issued out of the courts of  
16 this Commonwealth. Any person who willfully neglects or refuses  
17 to testify before the committee or to produce any books, papers,  
18 records or documents shall be subject to the penalties provided  
19 by the laws of this Commonwealth in such case. Each member of  
20 the committee shall have power to administer oaths and  
21 affirmations to witnesses appearing before the committee; and be  
22 it further

23 RESOLVED, That the committee make a report of its findings  
24 and recommendations to the full house not later than September  
25 1, 1994.