

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 254 Session of  
1997

INTRODUCED BY MCGEEHAN, CAPPABIANCA, WOGAN, DALEY, BARRAR,  
J. TAYLOR, TRELLO AND GIGLIOTTI, OCTOBER 1, 1997

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,  
OCTOBER 1, 1997

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing Congress to eliminate "Section 8 Housing" in the  
2 Department of Housing and Urban Development.

3 WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds that housing under  
4 section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (50 Stat.  
5 888, 42 U.S.C. 1437f) has brought crime, vandalism, graffiti,  
6 fear and housing devaluation to middle-class families and their  
7 neighborhoods; and

8 WHEREAS, Housing under section 8 of the United States Housing  
9 Act of 1937 has proved to be a failure in its original goal to  
10 provide recipients with pride in maintaining their apartments,  
11 the apartments' exteriors and surrounding neighborhood homes and  
12 businesses and with respect for their new community; and

13 WHEREAS, The Department of Housing and Urban Development  
14 reports that crime rates in public housing are 10 to 13 times  
15 higher than the national average; and

16 WHEREAS, Housing under section 8 of the United States Housing  
17 Act of 1937 cost the taxpayers \$7,000,000,000 in 1996, and the

1 Department of Housing and Urban Development had made the request  
2 to increase the program by \$5,600,000,000 for 1998; and

3 WHEREAS, Hard-working American families have invested their  
4 livelihoods and their efforts in creating a safe and attractive  
5 community for their children; and

6 WHEREAS, These families, many of which consist of young  
7 children or elderly couples, have been subjected to terror and  
8 have had their properties and neighborhoods vandalized, and have  
9 had their quality of life, for which they have toiled and  
10 labored, disintegrate; and

11 WHEREAS, Beneficiaries of housing under section 8 of the  
12 United States Housing Act of 1937 have no more stake in their  
13 affluent suburbs than they had in traditional public housing;  
14 therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, (the Senate concurring), That the General Assembly  
16 encourage Congress to eliminate housing under section 8 of the  
17 United States Housing Act of 1937 (50 Stat. 888, 42 U.S.C.  
18 1437f), thus saving middle-class neighborhoods from total ruin;  
19 and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to  
21 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each  
22 member of Congress from Pennsylvania.