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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 49

Session of  
2001

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INTRODUCED BY ZUG, HALUSKA, LEVDANSKY, LYNCH, RUBLEY AND  
STABACK, FEBRUARY 12, 2001

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, FEBRUARY 12, 2001

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A RESOLUTION

1 Providing for the establishment of a task force to evaluate and  
2 make recommendations regarding the utilization of certain  
3 Commonwealth-owned lands.

4 WHEREAS, There are approximately 2.1 million acres of forest  
5 land owned by the Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, State forest lands are managed by the Department of  
7 Conservation and Natural Resources, which seeks to ensure the  
8 long-term health, viability and productivity of the  
9 Commonwealth's forests, conserve native wild plants and provide  
10 for recreational opportunities; and

11 WHEREAS, There are 116 State parks covering roughly 283,000  
12 acres; and

13 WHEREAS, State park lands are managed by the Department of  
14 Conservation and Natural Resources, which seeks to provide  
15 opportunities for enjoying healthful outdoor recreation as well  
16 as outdoor classrooms for environmental education; and

17 WHEREAS, There has been an increase in the purchase of  
18 private lands by the Commonwealth for use as State forest lands

1 and State park lands; and

2 WHEREAS, Questions have arisen concerning the management of  
3 these lands and the benefit of the current management plans to  
4 the citizens of this Commonwealth; therefore be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives create a task  
6 force to evaluate and make recommendations regarding the  
7 utilization of these Commonwealth-owned lands; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the task force consist of seven members, four  
9 from the majority party and three from the minority party; and  
10 be it further

11 RESOLVED, That two of the four members from the majority  
12 party be appointed from the Appropriations Committee by the  
13 chairman of that committee; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That one of the three members from the minority  
15 party be appointed from the Appropriations Committee by the  
16 minority chairman of that committee; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That two of the four members from the majority  
18 party be appointed from the Environmental Resources and Energy  
19 Committee by the chairman of that committee; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That one of the three members from the minority  
21 party be appointed from the Environmental Resources and Energy  
22 Committee by the minority chairman of that committee; and be it  
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That one of the three members from the minority  
25 party be appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of  
26 Representatives; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives  
28 appoint the chairperson of the task force from among its  
29 members; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the Minority Leader of the House of

1 Representatives appoint the minority chairperson of the task  
2 force from among its members; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That the task force may hold hearings, take  
4 testimony and make its investigations at such places as it deems  
5 necessary in this Commonwealth and that each member of the task  
6 force shall have the power to administer oaths and affirmations  
7 to witnesses appearing before the task force; and be it further

8       RESOLVED, That the Chief Clerk of the House of  
9 Representatives be authorized to pay for all necessary,  
10 appropriate and proper expenses incurred by the task force.