
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 85

Session of
2001

INTRODUCED BY WANSACZ, ARMSTRONG, BELARDI, BELFANTI,
CAPPABIANCA, COLAFELLA, COSTA, DeLUCA, DeWEESE, FAIRCHILD,
FRANKEL, FREEMAN, GEIST, GRUCELA, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD,
YUDICHAK, HARHAI, HENNESSEY, JAMES, KELLER, KENNEY, MANN,
McCALL, MELIO, MYERS, PETRARCA, READSHAW, ROBERTS, ROHRER,
ROONEY, SAINATO, SOLOBAY, STABACK, STEELMAN, THOMAS, TIGUE,
TRICH, WALKO, WASHINGTON, C. WILLIAMS AND J. WILLIAMS,
MARCH 13, 2001

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, MARCH 13, 2001

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to research
2 and report to the General Assembly regarding guidelines for
3 use of 211 service codes for public services Statewide.

4 WHEREAS, Establishing a 211 dialing code as a simple
5 telephone number would allow people to access community
6 information and resources and to locate aid, such as counseling,
7 emergency financial assistance, clothing, shelter and other
8 basic human needs as well as volunteer opportunities; and

9 WHEREAS, The 211 dialing code service which originated in
10 Atlanta, Georgia, has been successfully demonstrated and
11 implemented and can now be found throughout Connecticut and in
12 Columbus, Georgia; Lafayette, Louisiana; and Knox County,
13 Tennessee; and

14 WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission recently
15 approved a petition by the 2-1-1 Collaborative, comprised of the

1 United Way of America, United Ways in Connecticut and Atlanta,
2 the Alliance of Information and Referral Systems, the Texas I&R
3 Network and the Florida Alliance of Information and Referral
4 Services, declaring that there exist "sufficient public benefits
5 to justify use of a scarce public resource, and we therefore
6 assign 211 to be used for access to community information and
7 referral services. Individuals facing serious threats to life,
8 health and mental well being have urgent and critical human
9 needs that are not addressed by dialing 911 for emergency
10 assistance or 311 for nonemergency police assistance. ... a
11 public need exists for an easy to use, easy to remember 211 code
12 to efficiently bring community information and referral services
13 to those who need them, providing a national safety network for
14 persons to get access readily to assistance"; therefore be it
15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the
16 Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to research and report to
17 the General Assembly regarding guidelines for use of 211 service
18 codes for public services Statewide.