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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 248 Session of  
2003

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INTRODUCED BY LESCOVITZ, BUXTON, COSTA, CRAHALLA, DAILEY, DALEY,  
FAIRCHILD, FRANKEL, GEIST, GERGELY, GODSHALL, HORSEY, KELLER,  
LAUGHLIN, LEWIS, MANN, MELIO, PETRARCA, REICHLEY, STURLA,  
E. Z. TAYLOR, WALKO, YOUNGBLOOD, JAMES, LaGROTTA, LEVDANSKY,  
MAITLAND, McNAUGHTON, S. MILLER, PHILLIPS, SOLOBAY, SURRA,  
TIGUE AND WOJNAROSKI, APRIL 29, 2003

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, APRIL 29, 2003

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## A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Standing Subcommittee on Basic Education of the  
2 Committee on Education to conduct a study of a countywide  
3 system and a regional system of school districts for this  
4 Commonwealth.

5 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth currently has 501 school  
6 districts, including several school districts with fewer than  
7 500 students; and

8 WHEREAS, This large number of school districts may cause  
9 fiscal inefficiencies due to the overlaps in school district  
10 administrative positions, purchasing, transportation and other  
11 areas of high cost to school districts; and

12 WHEREAS, Many other states in the nation have school  
13 districts which are organized on a countywide or regional basis;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, There could be significant financial and  
16 administrative benefits to reducing the number of school  
17 districts in this Commonwealth; and

1       WHEREAS, The taxpayers and students of this Commonwealth may  
2 benefit from potential financial savings; and

3       WHEREAS, There may also be significant transitional costs  
4 related to a consolidation of school districts into countywide  
5 or regional districts; and

6       WHEREAS, Changes in current State law or changes in the  
7 Constitution of Pennsylvania may be required to effect a  
8 consolidation of school districts in this Commonwealth; and

9       WHEREAS, There is a need to study the benefits and detriments  
10 of changing to a countywide or regional system of school  
11 districts that exists in other states; therefore be it

12       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the  
13 Standing Subcommittee on Basic Education of the Committee on  
14 Education to conduct a study to determine the efficacy and  
15 potential costs and benefits of consolidating school districts  
16 in this Commonwealth into countywide or regional school  
17 districts; and be it further

18       RESOLVED, That the Standing Subcommittee on Basic Education  
19 of the Committee on Education determine any current legal  
20 impediments to school district consolidation and ways in which  
21 State law must be changed to effect a consolidation of school  
22 districts in this Commonwealth.