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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 43

Session of  
2005

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INTRODUCED BY BOSCOLA, MELLOW, LAVALLE, COSTA, O'PAKE, RAFFERTY,  
KITCHEN, TARTAGLIONE, C. WILLIAMS, STACK AND RHOADES,  
MARCH 28, 2005

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REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, MARCH 28, 2005

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A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to study ways to  
2 decrease the cost of prescription drugs in Pennsylvania and  
3 to make a report.

4 WHEREAS, The rising cost of prescription drugs has imposed a  
5 significant hardship on the people of this Commonwealth; and

6 WHEREAS, Many prescription drugs are sold in countries other  
7 than the United States for far less than what they cost in this  
8 Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, Recently enacted Federal legislation prohibits  
10 Pennsylvanians and all United States citizens from purchasing  
11 less expensive but medically equivalent prescription drugs from  
12 other countries; and

13 WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States is currently  
14 debating legislation permitting the importation of prescription  
15 drugs; and

16 WHEREAS, The Governors of Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia and  
17 Rhode Island have each established a task force to explore  
18 prescription drug importation options; and

1       WHEREAS, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri and Kansas have joined  
2 together to implement an importation program developed by  
3 Illinois called I-SaveRx that offers safe, lower-cost  
4 prescription drugs; and

5       WHEREAS, The Governor of Illinois has invited Pennsylvania to  
6 join the I-SaveRx program; therefore be it

7       RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Joint State Government  
8 Commission to study ways to decrease the cost of prescription  
9 drugs in Pennsylvania, including analysis of Federal barriers to  
10 importation and feasibility of joining the I-SaveRx program; and  
11 be it further

12       RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report  
13 its findings and recommendations to the Senate no later than  
14 June 30, 2006.