THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 124

Session of 2005

INTRODUCED BY WONDERLING, BOSCOLA, BROWNE, KASUNIC, FERLO, COSTA, MUSTO, LAVALLE, ORIE, KITCHEN, RAFFERTY, TOMLINSON, RHOADES, STOUT AND STACK, MAY 26, 2005

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, MAY 26, 2005

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to
- 2 conduct a study to determine the advantages and disadvantages
 - of creating a separate cabinet-level Department of Veterans
- 4 Affairs.
- 5 WHEREAS, With greater need for the National Guard and Reserve
- 6 units to respond to local, national and international military
- 7 situations have come increased demands and responsibilities for
- 8 the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; and
- 9 WHEREAS, The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs has
- 10 a higher level of responsibility for the oversight of
- 11 recruiting, personnel, budgeting, equipment, training,
- 12 logistics, deployment and other operational challenges; and
- 13 WHEREAS, Veterans' issues continue to grow in number and
- 14 complexity, and management of these issues is more challenging
- 15 than ever; and
- 16 WHEREAS, Veterans are returning to Pennsylvania from active
- 17 duty in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Kosovo and elsewhere, adding
- 18 to an already substantial population of veterans living in this

- 1 Commonwealth; therefore be it
- 2 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Legislative Budget and
- 3 Finance Committee to conduct a study to determine the advantages
- 4 and disadvantages of creating a separate cabinet-level
- 5 Department of Veterans Affairs; and be it further
- 6 RESOLVED, That the study include the fiscal impact of
- 7 separating Veterans Affairs from the Department of Military and
- 8 Veterans Affairs; and be it further
- 9 RESOLVED, That the committee reports its findings to the
- 10 Senate no later than 12 months after the adoption of this
- 11 resolution.