

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 349 Session of  
2006

INTRODUCED BY ORIE, WENGER, PILEGGI, MELLOW, TARTAGLIONE,  
REGOLA, ERICKSON, KITCHEN, RAFFERTY, D. WHITE, COSTA,  
GREENLEAF, DINNIMAN, O'PAKE, WAUGH, FUMO, VANCE, BOSCOLA,  
MUSTO, FERLO, FONTANA, LOGAN, KASUNIC, WASHINGTON, BROWNE,  
RHOADES, PIPPY AND LAVALLE, OCTOBER 12, 2006

REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, OCTOBER 12, 2006

## A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to create a Pink  
2 Ribbon Advisory Committee to study the timely detection of  
3 breast cancer.

4 WHEREAS, Since 1969, death due to breast cancer has occurred  
5 more frequently among women living in Pennsylvania than among  
6 women living in the United States as a whole; and

7 WHEREAS, Since the last decade of the 20th century, breast  
8 cancer mortality rates began declining in the United States and  
9 in Pennsylvania; and

10 WHEREAS, Many women in this Commonwealth are continuing to  
11 live normal lives because of early breast cancer detection; and

12 WHEREAS, Many women in this Commonwealth have been afforded  
13 the opportunity to undergo breast cancer screening; and

14 WHEREAS, The combination of detection through screening and  
15 treatment with more effective therapies has prolonged the lives  
16 of women with breast cancer; and

17 WHEREAS, Some women, despite screening, have succumbed to

1 cancers that were not detected in their early stages; and

2 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth seeks to increase early breast  
3 cancer detection so that more women may live out their normal  
4 life spans; and

5 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania, with its many medical schools,  
6 teaching hospitals, world-renowned cancer specialists and breast  
7 surgeons and cancer and breast centers, is fortunate to have the  
8 expertise available to recommend what may be done to increase  
9 early breast cancer detection; therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Joint State Government  
11 Commission to conduct a study on the timely detection of breast  
12 cancer; and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission study at  
14 least all of the following:

15 (1) The state of breast cancer screening technology and  
16 the cost of that technology.

17 (2) The education and training of persons who perform  
18 breast cancer screenings and interpret the results.

19 (3) The number of qualified breast imaging specialists  
20 and mammography radiologists.

21 (4) The number of screening and treatment professionals  
22 and paraprofessionals in relation to the number of women in  
23 this Commonwealth.

24 (5) The accessibility of women in rural areas to  
25 professionals and paraprofessionals.

26 (6) The existence of guidelines for breast imaging or  
27 mammography.

28 (7) The incidence of adherence to the guidelines.

29 (8) The existence of and adherence to guidelines for  
30 follow-up with women found to have abnormal symptoms.

1           (9) The need to create guidelines or standards of care  
2       for detection and follow-up in this Commonwealth.

3           (10) The adequacy of provider reimbursement by public  
4       and private sectors.

5           (11) The availability of insurance for first and second  
6       opinions.

7           (12) The information made available to women who have  
8       been found to have abnormal symptoms;

9       and be it further

10       RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission create a  
11       Pink Ribbon Advisory Committee composed of individuals from  
12       breast centers and cancer centers and rural breast centers and  
13       cancer centers; breast imaging radiologists, breast surgeons,  
14       primary care providers, including family practitioners and  
15       obstetrician-gynecologists; mammography/breast imaging  
16       technologists; administrators of mammography and imaging  
17       facilities; insurance industry representatives; the Pennsylvania  
18       Cancer Alliance; representatives of advocacy groups such as the  
19       Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition and the Susan B. Komen  
20       Foundation; representatives of the Pennsylvania Division of the  
21       American Cancer Society; and representatives of any other  
22       interested parties the commission chooses to assist in its  
23       deliberations; and be it further

24       RESOLVED, That the commission provide the Senate with its  
25       findings and recommendations on how Pennsylvania can increase  
26       the detection of breast cancer; and be it further

27       RESOLVED, That the commission report its findings and  
28       recommendations to the Senate no later than September 2007.