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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 286 Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY METCALFE, CREIGHTON, MUSTIO, ARGALL, BARRAR,  
BELFANTI, BOBACK, CAPPELLI, CLYMER, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD,  
GIBBONS, GOODMAN, HARHAI, HESS, JAMES, MILLARD, R. MILLER,  
MOYER, O'NEILL, PAYNE, RAPP, READSHAW, REED, ROAE, ROHRER,  
SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SOLOBAY, STERN, R. STEVENSON,  
SURRA, SWANGER, TRUE, VEREB, WALKO, WOJNAROSKI, YUDICHAK,  
BOYD, DENLINGER, GINGRICH AND HARRIS, MAY 23, 2007

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, MAY 23, 2007

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A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the United States Congress to prepare, introduce and  
2 actively support an amendment to existing Federal laws to  
3 address the influx of unauthorized aliens.

4 WHEREAS, There are legal procedures that immigrants must  
5 follow if they seek to become United States citizens; and

6 WHEREAS, Cities, boroughs and townships in the Commonwealth  
7 of Pennsylvania are experiencing an influx of unauthorized  
8 aliens who are not following legal procedures; and

9 WHEREAS, Unauthorized aliens are placing demands on medical  
10 facilities, housing facilities, educational institutions and  
11 other municipal services; and

12 WHEREAS, Unauthorized aliens are receiving many educational,  
13 medical and other benefits for free to the detriment of law-  
14 abiding citizens who have to pay for their own benefits as well  
15 as for the benefits being given to unauthorized aliens; and

1       WHEREAS, The influx of unauthorized aliens has led to a rise  
2 in the crime rate, diverting police attention from other duties;  
3 and

4       WHEREAS, Unscrupulous businesses are hiring unauthorized  
5 aliens and taking away job opportunities from law-abiding  
6 citizens; and

7       WHEREAS, The influx of unauthorized aliens is straining the  
8 resources of municipalities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;  
9 and

10       WHEREAS, The Federal Government is not enforcing the  
11 immigration laws; and

12       WHEREAS, Under our system of federalism, the Federal  
13 Government and state and local governments share powers and  
14 authority; and

15       WHEREAS, Law-abiding citizens deserve to be protected from  
16 the social and legal problems created in their communities by  
17 unauthorized aliens and exacerbated by Federal nonenforcement of  
18 immigration laws; therefore be it

19       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
20 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania encourage the United States  
21 Congress to prepare, introduce and actively support an amendment  
22 to existing Federal immigration laws; and be it further

23       RESOLVED, That in addition to the existing inherent authority  
24 of state and local police to make immigration arrests, the  
25 amendment should permit state and local police to transfer all  
26 arrested unauthorized aliens to the Federal Government, creating  
27 a legal obligation on the part of the Federal Government to take  
28 custody in all cases; and be it further

29       RESOLVED, That the amendment permit state and local  
30 prosecutors to seek appropriate criminal charges and deportation

1 of unauthorized aliens, all without prior approval by the  
2 Federal Government; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the amendment permit county judges to hold  
4 deportation hearings and order deportation when appropriate, all  
5 without prior approval by the Federal Government; and be it  
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That the amendment provide that any businesses  
8 hiring unauthorized aliens be fined and, in addition to fines,  
9 be required to reimburse the state and local governments for the  
10 cost of arrest, detention, prosecution and deportation of any  
11 unauthorized aliens hired by the businesses; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives demand full  
13 cooperation among our Federal, state and local governments in  
14 eliminating all economic attractions and incentives, including  
15 public benefits, welfare, education and employment  
16 opportunities, for unauthorized aliens, as well as securing our  
17 borders against unlawful invasion; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Federal Government reimburse the state and  
19 local governments for the cost of arrest, detention, prosecution  
20 and deportation of any unauthorized aliens for costs not covered  
21 by any businesses hiring unauthorized aliens; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the  
23 United States Congressional delegation and the President of the  
24 United States of America.