
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 799 Session of
2008

INTRODUCED BY COHEN, THOMAS, SURRA, JOSEPHS, BELFANTI, FREEMAN,
CALTAGIRONE, STERN, FAIRCHILD, FRANKEL, GOODMAN, HORNAMAN,
LONGIETTI, MCGEEHAN, MYERS, M. O'BRIEN, PASHINSKI AND
YOUNGBLOOD, JUNE 18, 2008

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, JUNE 18, 2008

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to
2 conduct a study on how the legislature may provide input into
3 proposed international trade agreements.

4 WHEREAS, International trade has a significant impact upon
5 this Commonwealth's economy, affecting job growth in employment
6 related directly and indirectly to trade, affecting unemployment
7 due to expanding foreign businesses and impacting the
8 competition and costs of goods to consumers; and

9 WHEREAS, The Federal Government provides copies of
10 international trade agreements to governors for their comments;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, As many agreements take effect in a timely fashion,
13 there is a need for state governments to make rapid analysis and
14 comment on matters involving these agreements; and

15 WHEREAS, The conditions imposed in some international trade
16 agreements have the ability to supersede state laws and state
17 court decisions; and

1 WHEREAS, Several states have established legislative
2 committees to oversee international trade as states are
3 recognizing their role in influencing trade policies; therefore
4 be it

5 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
6 study trade policies and develop a mechanism for rapid
7 legislative responses to proposed trade agreements; and be it
8 further

9 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
10 report its findings and recommendations on legislative oversight
11 and participation in trade policies to the House of
12 Representatives no later than November 30, 2008.