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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 52

Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY ORIE, LAVALLE, FONTANA, BOSCOLA, TARTAGLIONE,  
MADIGAN, RHOADES, WAUGH, ERICKSON, O'PAKE, MUSTO, FOLMER,  
COSTA, STOUT, RAFFERTY, FERLO, GREENLEAF, McILHINNEY,  
WONDERLING, BROWNE, D. WHITE, BRUBAKER, KASUNIC, PIPPY,  
ARMSTRONG, TOMLINSON, WASHINGTON, STACK AND DINNIMAN,  
MARCH 19, 2007

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REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, MARCH 19, 2007

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## 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

1 WHEREAS, Some women, despite screening, have succumbed to  
2 cancers that were not detected in their early stages; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 (8) The existence of and adherence to guidelines for

1 follow-up with women found to have abnormal symptoms.

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

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

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

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

10 and be it further

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

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

28 RESOLVED, That the commission report its findings and  
29 recommendations to the Senate no later than September 2008.