

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 181 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY WANSACZ, BURNS, BENNINGHOFF, CUTLER, EVERETT,
GIBBONS, GOODMAN, HORNAMAN, KORTZ, KOTIK, MAHONEY, MARSHALL,
McILVAINE SMITH, MELIO, MURT, MUSTIO, PYLE, REICHLEY,
SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, STABACK, SWANGER, R. TAYLOR AND
VULAKOVICH, MARCH 23, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 23, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study
2 the fiscal impact on consolidating and reducing the number of
3 State agencies and departments under the authority of the
4 Governor.

5 WHEREAS, The current fiscal condition facing State government
6 is raising the issue of the consolidation of all State agencies
7 and departments; and

8 WHEREAS, The result of having big bureaucracy in this
9 Commonwealth has caused a lack of coordination and focus on
10 major functions, wasteful administrative spending and a lack of
11 accountability to the public; and

12 WHEREAS, The goal of this study is to reduce State agencies
13 and departments by 30%, which will eliminate unnecessary
14 bureaucracy, clarify responsibility for governmental functions
15 and concentrate departments around core State functions; and

16 WHEREAS, Full-scale State agency consolidation provides a
17 very effective way to save money for taxpayers; and

1 WHEREAS, There is no need to maintain separate agencies and
2 departments, each with its own staggering and growing
3 administrative costs, when reducing their number could improve
4 their effectiveness and efficiency; and

5 WHEREAS, Departments or agencies that perform similar
6 functions should be grouped together, such as the Governor's
7 proposal for putting long-term living services under the
8 umbrella of one agency that would be renamed the Department of
9 Aging and Long-Term Living; and

10 WHEREAS, This shift will improve services to Pennsylvanians,
11 streamline paperwork for providers and improve business
12 practices to make it possible to expand this Commonwealth's
13 aging and disabled services; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
15 conduct a study to determine the fiscal impact of consolidating
16 and reducing the number of State agencies and departments under
17 the authority of the Governor; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
19 analyze the manner in which other states have consolidated state
20 government agencies and departments; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
22 issue a report containing its findings and two merger proposals
23 to the General Assembly no later than six months after the
24 adoption of this resolution.