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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 161 Session of  
2009

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INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, BOSCOLA, ALLOWAY, BROWNE, BRUBAKER,  
ERICKSON, GREENLEAF, ORIE, RAFFERTY, SMUCKER, WARD, WAUGH AND  
D. WHITE, AUGUST 10, 2009

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REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, AUGUST 10, 2009

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A RESOLUTION

1 Establishing a commission of private and public sector cost-  
2 minded leaders of this Commonwealth to study the management  
3 of current government operations and to make recommendations  
4 of cost-cutting measures.

5 WHEREAS, During this difficult economic recession, the  
6 economic health of this Commonwealth is a top priority; and

7 WHEREAS, The tax burden of this Commonwealth's citizens and  
8 businesses resulting from the cost of government operations and  
9 administration can have a significant impact on the economic  
10 health of the Commonwealth; and

11 WHEREAS, State government has an obligation of fiscal  
12 responsibility and of limiting the tax burden it imposes; and

13 WHEREAS, There should be an organized bipartisan effort to  
14 determine ways in which government can be made more efficient;  
15 therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That a government management and costs study  
17 commission of leaders from the public and private sectors be  
18 established to study Commonwealth government operations and the

1 experience of other states in an effort to propose changes which  
2 will reduce costs; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the commission's recommendations include those  
4 which:

5 (1) cut costs;

6 (2) increase efficiency;

7 (3) consolidate like functions;

8 (4) return functions and job creation opportunities to  
9 the private sector; and

10 (5) eliminate functions;

11 and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the commission be comprised of six members to  
13 be appointed by the Majority Leader of the Senate and four  
14 members to be appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate,  
15 with no more than two appointments from each authority being a  
16 governmental official or employee; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the commission be charged with electing one of  
18 its members as chairman; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the appointments be made within 30 days of the  
20 approval of this resolution; and be it further

21 RESOLVED, That the commission make a report of its findings  
22 and recommendations to the Senate by June 30, 2010, at which  
23 time the commission shall cease to exist; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the commission rely on the existing staff of  
25 the Senate Appropriations Committee to the greatest extent  
26 possible; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That necessary and reasonable costs and  
28 expenditures of the commission be paid from funds already  
29 appropriated to the General Assembly.