

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

# SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 343 Session of  
2010

INTRODUCED BY PILEGGI, PICCOLA, ERICKSON, ARGALL, FONTANA,  
WOZNIAK, BAKER, MUSTO, BRUBAKER, LOGAN, RAFFERTY, M. WHITE,  
PIPPY, O'PAKE, SMUCKER, WASHINGTON, ALLOWAY, FARNESE,  
GREENLEAF, WARD, KASUNIC, VANCE, DINNIMAN AND D. WHITE,  
MAY 13, 2010

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MAY 13, 2010

## A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to study and  
2 review The Library Code for modernization.

3 WHEREAS, Public libraries provide information needed to live,  
4 learn and work in the 21st century; and

5 WHEREAS, Libraries provide a vital role in a community; and

6 WHEREAS, Libraries are places for opportunity, education,  
7 self-help and lifelong learning; and

8 WHEREAS, Public use of libraries continues to grow; and

9 WHEREAS, The Library Code was enacted by the General Assembly  
10 in 1961; and

11 WHEREAS, The Library Code was established to supplement and  
12 stimulate local support of libraries; and

13 WHEREAS, The Library Code created a State system of local  
14 libraries, district library centers and regional library  
15 resource centers; and

16 WHEREAS, The Library Code provides funding to support this

1 system and to stimulate local funding of public libraries; and

2 WHEREAS, The libraries of this Commonwealth are now governed  
3 by the Bureau of Library Development in the Department of  
4 Education; and

5 WHEREAS, The Bureau of Library Development includes the  
6 Division of Library Improvement which works with public,  
7 academic and institution libraries and library networks to  
8 coordinate library service across this Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania library system is a network of  
10 libraries that are connected by Interlibrary Loan and many  
11 different services, such as PA Power Library and Access  
12 Pennsylvania; and

13 WHEREAS, This network of libraries and library systems is  
14 governed under one funding process; and

15 WHEREAS, The Library Code has not been thoroughly reviewed  
16 since its inception; and

17 WHEREAS, The Library Code, when it was enacted, was a model  
18 for other states; and

19 WHEREAS, The Library Code is now considered antiquated in  
20 today's changing library structures; and

21 WHEREAS, The Library Code should be modernized to reflect  
22 changes that have occurred in the past 50 years; therefore be it

23 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Joint State Government  
24 Commission to conduct a review of The Library Code and the  
25 current library structure; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission study  
27 the current funding structure for libraries; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission provide  
29 the Senate with its recommendations for changes and  
30 modernization of The Library Code; and be it further

1       RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission provide  
2 the Senate with its recommendations for an organizational and  
3 funding structure for the library system in this Commonwealth;  
4 and be it further

5       RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report  
6 its findings and recommendations to the Senate no later than  
7 November 30, 2010.