
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 348 Session of
2010

INTRODUCED BY WARD, VOGEL, D. WHITE, EARLL, M. WHITE, YAW, ORIE,
KASUNIC, ALLOWAY, BOSCOLA AND WASHINGTON, MAY 26, 2010

REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, MAY 26, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to
2 conduct a performance audit of Pennsylvania's methadone
3 treatment programs and the medical assistance transportation
4 program.

5 WHEREAS, The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee is a
6 bipartisan, bicameral legislative service agency consisting of
7 12 members of the General Assembly established by statute to
8 conduct studies and make recommendations aimed at eliminating
9 unnecessary expenditures, to promote economy in the government
10 of the Commonwealth and to assure that Commonwealth funds are
11 being expended in accordance with legislative intent and law;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The committee is authorized to conduct a wide range
14 of research activities pertaining to the operation and
15 performance of State-funded programs and agencies; and

16 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth through the Department of Public
17 Welfare reimburses methadone clinics for the cost of providing
18 treatment to individuals eligible for the medical assistance
19 program; and

1 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's total medical assistance costs
2 for methadone treatment for fiscal year 2008-2009 is
3 \$42,480,651; and

4 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's medical assistance transportation
5 program provides transportation to individuals who are receiving
6 methadone treatments by either reimbursing those who have access
7 to a private vehicle at a minimum rate of \$0.25/mile or by
8 providing rides on paratransit vehicles, including vans and
9 taxis with little accountability regarding the most cost-
10 effective mode of transportation to the clinic; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Legislative Budget and
12 Finance Committee to conduct a performance audit of
13 Pennsylvania's methadone treatment programs and the medical
14 assistance transportation program; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the committee conduct a performance audit to
16 examine the annual cost to the Commonwealth for methadone
17 treatment and the length of treatment for each individual
18 receiving treatment, and specifically determine whether there is
19 a narcotic treatment plan for recovery from an individual's drug
20 addiction rather than maintenance to methadone; and be it
21 further

22 RESOLVED, That the performance audit examine the annual
23 current cost of the medical assistance transportation program to
24 the Federal Government, the Commonwealth and counties and the
25 savings that would result if an individual would be required to
26 receive treatment at the facility closest to the individual's
27 residence; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the performance audit include initiatives and
29 policies of other states' recovery programs, including options
30 other than methadone for treating heroin addictions; and be it

1 further

2 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
3 report the results of the audit within 90 days after the passage
4 of this resolution to the President pro tempore of the Senate
5 and the Minority Leader of the Senate.