

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, WASHINGTON, WOZNIAK, WAUGH,
GREENLEAF AND MENSCH, MAY 26, 2010

SENATOR VANCE, PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, AS AMENDED, JUNE 22,
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

1 program; and

2 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's total medical assistance costs
3 for methadone treatment for fiscal year 2008-2009 is
4 \$42,480,651; and

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

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

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

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

29 RESOLVED, That the performance audit include initiatives and
30 policies of other states' recovery programs, including options

1 other than methadone for treating heroin addictions; and be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
4 report the results of the audit within ~~90~~ 150 days after the ←
5 passage of this resolution to the President pro tempore of the
6 Senate and the Minority Leader of the Senate.