
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 315 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY CAUSER, BARRAR, SAINATO, BAKER, CALTAGIRONE,
COHEN, DAY, DENLINGER, EVERETT, FARRY, FLECK, GABLER,
GINGRICH, GOODMAN, GRELL, HENNESSEY, HORNAMAN, KULA, O'NEILL,
PICKETT, QUINN, RAPP, ROCK, SONNEY, STERN, SWANGER, TALLMAN,
THOMAS AND VULAKOVICH, JUNE 2, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, JUNE 2, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study
2 the financial and administrative effectiveness of the
3 emergency medical services system.

4 WHEREAS, The Emergency Medical Services System Act was
5 enacted as 35 Pa.C.S. Ch. 81 (relating to emergency medical
6 services system) to replace the former act of July 3, 1985
7 (P.L.164, No.45), known as the Emergency Medical Services Act;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The enactment of the Emergency Medical Services
10 System Act was the culmination of years of research and
11 preparation to update the emergency medical services delivery
12 system in this Commonwealth; and

13 WHEREAS, The Emergency Medical Services System Act changed
14 the emergency medical services delivery system from a system
15 based on national standards to a system based on curriculum; and

16 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth should continually assess and

1 revise the statutes and regulations which govern the functions
2 of emergency medical services agencies and providers and other
3 components of the emergency medical services system; and

4 WHEREAS, It is the public policy of the General Assembly to
5 ensure that the emergency medical services system adapts to
6 changing needs of the residents of this Commonwealth and
7 promotes the recruitment and retention of persons willing and
8 qualified to serve as emergency medical services providers in
9 this Commonwealth; and

10 WHEREAS, The General Assembly finds it to be in the public
11 interest to ensure readily available and coordinated emergency
12 medical services of the highest quality to the citizens of this
13 great Commonwealth; and

14 WHEREAS, There have been many changes in technology and
15 organizational administration since the inception of the former
16 Emergency Medical Services Act, such as the advent of the
17 community college system, online computer courses, national
18 associations and local area programs for emergency medical
19 services training; and

20 WHEREAS, Changes in technology, systems management,
21 infrastructure and communications capabilities allow for the
22 Commonwealth to explore more beneficial approaches for the
23 provision of the highest quality system for the delivery of
24 emergency medical services, training and planning, as well as
25 all-hazard emergency preparedness and disaster response training
26 and planning; and

27 WHEREAS, The approximate \$11,800,000 in annual funding for
28 these emergency medical services under the Emergency Medical
29 Services Operating Fund may be more effectively used under a
30 more streamlined system which uses existing training, planning

1 and infrastructure resources; and

2 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's Regional Counter-Terrorism Task
3 Force infrastructure is a model for the country and may serve as
4 a model for streamlining the current emergency medical services
5 system in this Commonwealth; therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the
7 Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study the financial
8 and administrative effectiveness of the emergency medical
9 services system, including the responsibility of the Bureau of
10 Emergency Medical Services and the use, role and effectiveness
11 of the 16 regional emergency medical services councils; and be
12 it further

13 RESOLVED, That the committee explore enhancing the current
14 system for the delivery of the Commonwealth's emergency medical
15 system through the use of existing government and private sector
16 programs, institutions, facilities and infrastructure resources
17 and nationally recognized associations and organizations
18 to especially explore the feasibility of using the
19 Commonwealth's many colleges and universities and community
20 colleges, taking into account the availability of online
21 services and courses and the use of adjunct professors; and be
22 it further

23 RESOLVED, That the committee examine the possibility of
24 streamlining and restructuring the regional emergency medical
25 services system and examine the feasibility of matching the
26 regional emergency medical services councils to the current
27 regional counter-terrorism zones within this Commonwealth to
28 minimize the duplication of services and overlapping
29 jurisdictions; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the committee prepare a comprehensive listing

1 of both the expenditures of the Emergency Medical Services
2 Operating Fund and a comprehensive listing of all compensation
3 packages of all employees of the regional emergency medical
4 services councils; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the committee make recommendations for a more
6 streamlined delivery model based on the findings of the
7 committee; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the committee issue a report of its findings
9 and recommendations to the Veterans Affairs and Emergency
10 Preparedness Committee of the House of Representatives by
11 December 31, 2011.