

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, VULAKOVICH AND MURT, JUNE 2, 2011

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, DECEMBER 6, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee AND THE
2 JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION to study the financial and
3 administrative effectiveness of the emergency medical
4 services system.



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

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

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

1       WHEREAS, The Commonwealth should continually assess and  
2       revise the statutes and regulations which govern the functions  
3       of emergency medical services agencies and providers and other  
4       components of the emergency medical services system; and

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

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

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

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

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

1 more streamlined system which uses existing training, planning  
2 and infrastructure resources; and

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

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

14 RESOLVED, THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DIRECT THE ←  
15 LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT A  
16 PERFORMANCE REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE  
17 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM UNDER THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
18 SERVICES OPERATING FUND. THE PERFORMANCE REVIEW SHALL INCLUDE AN  
19 ANALYSIS OF THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, THE  
20 PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICE COUNCIL AND THE 16  
21 REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCILS; AND BE IT FURTHER

22 RESOLVED, That the ~~committee~~ JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT ←  
23 COMMISSION explore enhancing the current system for the delivery  
24 of the Commonwealth's emergency medical system through the use  
25 of existing government and private sector programs,  
26 institutions, facilities and infrastructure resources and  
27 nationally recognized associations and organizations ~~to~~ AND THAT ←  
28 THE COMMISSION especially explore the feasibility of using the  
29 Commonwealth's many colleges and universities and community  
30 colleges, taking into account the availability of online

1 services and courses and the use of adjunct professors; and be  
2 it further

3 RESOLVED, That the ~~committee~~ JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT ←  
4 COMMISSION examine the possibility of streamlining and  
5 restructuring the regional emergency medical services system and  
6 examine the feasibility of matching the regional emergency  
7 medical services councils to the current regional counter-  
8 terrorism zones within this Commonwealth to minimize the  
9 duplication of services and overlapping jurisdictions; and be it  
10 further

11 RESOLVED, That the ~~committee~~ LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND FINANCE ←  
12 COMMITTEE prepare a comprehensive listing of both the  
13 expenditures of the Emergency Medical Services Operating Fund  
14 and a comprehensive listing of all compensation packages of all  
15 employees of the regional emergency medical services councils  
16 INCLUDING THE PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES COUNCIL; ←  
17 and be it further

18 ~~RESOLVED, That the committee make recommendations for a more ←~~  
19 ~~streamlined delivery model based on the findings of the~~  
20 ~~committee; and be it further~~

21 ~~RESOLVED, That the committee issue a report of its findings ←~~  
22 ~~and recommendations to the Veterans Affairs and Emergency~~  
23 ~~Preparedness Committee of the House of Representatives by~~  
24 ~~December 31, 2011~~

25 RESOLVED, THAT BOTH THE COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION MAKE ←  
26 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A MORE STREAMLINED DELIVERY MODEL BASED ON  
27 THEIR FINDINGS; AND BE IT FURTHER

28 RESOLVED, THAT THE JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION DEVELOP  
29 LEGISLATION BASED ON THEIR FINDINGS; AND BE IT FURTHER

30 RESOLVED, THAT BOTH THE COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION ISSUE A

- 1 JOINT REPORT OF THEIR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CHIEF
- 2 CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BY NOVEMBER 30, 2012.