

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 8

Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY GREENLEAF, TARTAGLIONE, BROWNE, ERICKSON,
TOMLINSON, RAFFERTY, WAUGH AND COSTA, JANUARY 12, 2011

REFERRED TO JUDICIARY, JANUARY 12, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to study the
2 issue of violent crime, to establish an advisory committee to
3 review proposals that address the issue of violent crime and
4 to report to the Senate with its findings and
5 recommendations.

6 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania cities of all sizes are experiencing
7 significant violent crime often related to drug trafficking,
8 gangs and violence using guns; and

9 WHEREAS, Violent crime affects all Pennsylvanians, including
10 the law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line
11 every day to protect us by preserving the peace; and

12 WHEREAS, In looking at ways to address violent crime, the
13 General Assembly should recognize the increasing problem of
14 violence against police officers; and

15 WHEREAS, In recent sessions, both houses of the General
16 Assembly have recognized the need to address the issue of
17 violent crime; and

18 WHEREAS, The Senate Judiciary Committee held public hearings
19 on urban violence in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Altoona and

1 Harrisburg; and

2 WHEREAS, Witnesses at these public hearings made many
3 legislative and administrative recommendations that address
4 violent crime; and

5 WHEREAS, Testifying at the Harrisburg public hearing, the
6 Fraternal Order of Police proposed the formation of a Joint
7 State Government Commission advisory committee to review these
8 recommendations; and

9 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives held a Committee of the
10 Whole to discuss dozens of crime-fighting proposals; and

11 WHEREAS, There are many violence-prevention programs in place
12 around the nation that represent best practices; therefore be it

13 RESOLVED, That there is a need for a comprehensive study of
14 the proposals made to the Senate Judiciary Committee, the
15 proposals considered by the Committee of the Whole and any other
16 proposals or best practices which would help alleviate violent
17 crime; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Joint State Government
19 Commission to study the issue of violent crime, to establish an
20 advisory committee consisting of experts on the issue of violent
21 crime, which is balanced so that it encompasses a wide range of
22 backgrounds and viewpoints, to review proposals that address the
23 issue of violent crime and develop a consensus on the
24 recommendations best suited for Pennsylvania and to report to
25 the Senate with its findings and recommendations no later than
26 two years after adoption of this resolution.