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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 45 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY CALTAGIRONE, GRELL, ROZZI, BROWNLEE, SCHLOSSBERG,  
STEPHENS, GINGRICH, NEUMAN, MATZIE, O'NEILL, PETRI, KINSEY,  
HARKINS, YOUNGBLOOD, D. COSTA, KORTZ, THOMAS, WATSON, MAHONEY  
AND ROCK, JANUARY 24, 2013

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, JANUARY 24, 2013

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A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency  
2 to conduct a study concerning child advocacy centers and  
3 multidisciplinary investigative teams in this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, The primary purpose of child advocacy centers is to  
5 provide child-focused, child-friendly programs dedicated to  
6 coordinating a formalized multidisciplinary response to  
7 suspected child abuse by providing services, including forensic  
8 interviews, medical evaluations, therapeutic interventions,  
9 victims support and advocacy, team case reviews and a system for  
10 case tracking; and

11 WHEREAS, The report issued by the Task Force on Child  
12 Protection states:

13 (1) child advocacy centers exist in only 20 of this  
14 Commonwealth's 67 counties, forcing many of the organizations  
15 to serve disproportionately large regions, leaving some  
16 children untreated or underserved; and

17 (2) child advocacy centers lack a sufficient level of

dedicated funding sources; and

(3) the limited amount of resources and access prevent professionals from adequately caring for child abuse victims and pose severe problems for investigations;

and

WHEREAS, The Task Force on Child Protection, after reviewing the laws and procedures relating to the reporting of child abuse and the protection of the health and safety of children, recommends further review of child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to conduct a study concerning child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams in this Commonwealth; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the report shall include an analysis of the structure and funding sources for child advocacy centers and identify the areas of this Commonwealth best suited for the establishment of additional child advocacy centers; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency shall make use of its Criminal Justice Advisory Boards and training capabilities to assist in the establishment and enhancement of child advocacy centers and multidisciplinary investigative teams; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the report shall be submitted to the chairman and minority chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives by September 30, 2013.