
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 74 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY MUNDY, WHEATLEY, HAGGERTY, SANTARSIERO, O'BRIEN,
V. BROWN, READSHAW, BROWNLEE, KORTZ, KAVULICH, D. COSTA,
YOUNGBLOOD, HARKINS, KINSEY, DELUCA, COHEN, FREEMAN AND
MCCARTER, FEBRUARY 8, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, FEBRUARY 8, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to
2 conduct a study of the Patient Safety Authority relating to
3 its impact on the reduction of medical errors and promotion
4 of patient safety.

5 WHEREAS, When the General Assembly enacted the act of March
6 20, 2002 (P.L.154, No.13), known as the Medical Care
7 Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, it established
8 the Patient Safety Authority to reduce and eliminate medical
9 errors by identifying problems and recommending solutions that
10 promote patient safety in hospitals, ambulatory surgical
11 facilities, birthing centers and certain abortion facilities;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, When the General Assembly enacted the act of July
14 20, 2007 (P.L.331, No.52), it provided for additional
15 responsibilities of the Patient Safety Authority with regard to
16 health care-associated infections as defined under the Medical
17 Care Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act, including
18 the creation and conduct of training programs for infection

1 control teams, health care workers and physical plant personnel
2 about the prevention and control of health care-associated
3 infections; and

4 WHEREAS, Recent economic trends raise serious questions
5 regarding the ability of the Commonwealth to continue funding
6 State agencies that do not successfully carry out their mission;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Legislative Budget and Finance Committee has not
9 completed a study on the Patient Safety Authority since its
10 inception in 2002; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the
12 Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a
13 comprehensive study of the Patient Safety Authority to determine
14 if the duties put forth by the Medical Care Availability and
15 Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act and the act of July 20, 2007
16 (P.L.331, No.52) are performed by the Patient Safety Authority;
17 and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
19 identify all programs, services and functions funded through the
20 Patient Safety Trust Fund and determine their costs and service
21 or activity levels, examine all Patient Safety Trust Fund
22 programs, services and functions and analyze projections of
23 future program demand, service levels and associated costs and
24 determine the current and projected financial condition of the
25 Patient Safety Trust Fund; and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
27 determine whether the composition of the Patient Safety
28 Authority board of directors is appropriate for the work it is
29 mandated to accomplish; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee

1 determine if changes to law, regulation or policy are needed to
2 achieve the desired results put forth by the Medical Care
3 Availability and Reduction of Error (Mcare) Act and the act of
4 July 20, 2007 (P.L.331, No.52); and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
6 recommend whether the existence of the Patient Safety Authority
7 should sunset; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
9 prepare a report of its findings and transmit copies of the
10 report to the Health Committee, the Insurance Committee, the
11 Finance Committee and the Appropriations Committee of the House
12 of Representatives no later than six months after adoption of
13 this resolution.