THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 607 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY MURT, D. COSTA, BARRAR, BISHOP, BOBACK, BRADFORD, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN, CUTLER, DONATUCCI, DRISCOLL, HENNESSEY, JOZWIAK, KIRKLAND, KOTIK, McNEILL, MILLARD, NEILSON, READSHAW, REGAN, ROZZI, SCHWEYER, VEREB, WATSON AND YOUNGBLOOD, DECEMBER 3, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, DECEMBER 3, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to study
2   the financial and administrative effectiveness of the
3   statutory provisions requiring autism spectrum disorders
4   insurance coverage.

5   WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders are complex

6 neurobehavioral disorders that develop in early childhood and

7 include impairments in social interaction, developmental

8 language and communication skills and rigid, repetitive

9 behaviors; and

10   WHEREAS, Although there is no cure for autism spectrum

11 disorders, early diagnosis and appropriate support as a child

12 can lead to an improved adult outcome; and

13   WHEREAS, Nationally, about 1 in 88 American children are

14 living with autism spectrum disorders; and

15   WHEREAS, Statewide, approximately 55,000 Pennsylvanians are

16 living with autism spectrum disorders; and

17   WHEREAS, The number of adults living with autism spectrum

1 disorders is expected to increase dramatically over the next few

2 years as adolescents age into adulthood; and

3   WHEREAS, Autism spectrum disorders have become an urgent

4 public health concern that is more common than previously

5 thought; therefore be it

6   RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the

7 Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to conduct a

8 comprehensive study of the act of July 9, 2008 (P.L.885, No.62),

9 providing for autism spectrum disorders insurance coverage, to

10 determine how the duties set forth in the act are being

11 implemented; and be it further

12   RESOLVED, That the committee report its findings and

13 recommendations to the House of Representatives no later than

14 November 30, 2016.