

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 59 Session of  
2015

---

INTRODUCED BY SMITH, FONTANA, TEPLITZ, TARTAGLIONE, VULAKOVICH,  
BREWSTER, HUGHES, FARNESE, GORDNER, YUDICHAK, WILEY, COSTA,  
SCHWANK, BOSCOLA, HUTCHINSON, BROWNE AND BLAKE, APRIL 8, 2015

---

REFERRED TO LABOR AND INDUSTRY, APRIL 8, 2015

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to  
2 conduct a comprehensive study of work force investment  
3 programs of the Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, The work force investment system of the Commonwealth  
5 is comprised of multiple programs housed in various State  
6 government agencies, including the Department of Labor and  
7 Industry, the Department of Education, the Department of  
8 Community and Economic Development, the Department of Human  
9 Services, the Department of Aging and the Department of  
10 Corrections; and

11 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth currently spends in excess of \$650  
12 million of Federal and State funds on work force investment  
13 initiatives; and

14 WHEREAS, The taxpayers and workers of this Commonwealth  
15 rightfully deserve to have the most robust, innovative,  
16 successful and cost-effective work force investment system  
17 possible; and

18 WHEREAS, Anecdotal evidence suggests that this Commonwealth's

1 work force investment system is too fragmented by virtue of  
2 being administered by multiple agencies, there is not sufficient  
3 coordination and communication between agencies and that a more  
4 refined and streamlined system may return more effective  
5 outcomes; and

6 WHEREAS, Many of this Commonwealth's leading industry  
7 employers have expressed concerns that far too many recent high  
8 school graduates lack the proper skills necessary to be  
9 productive and successful employees; and

10 WHEREAS, Additional efforts toward collaboration between  
11 community colleges and employers to develop programs designed to  
12 provide training and certificate programs to prepare employees  
13 for the work force would be beneficial; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Legislative Budget and  
15 Finance Committee to conduct a comprehensive study of work force  
16 investment programs of the Commonwealth; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the study focus on an outcome-based system  
18 that strives for success; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the committee identify all work force  
20 investment programs contained in all State agencies and evaluate  
21 the effectiveness of the programs in terms of coordination of  
22 efforts toward successful outcomes achieved with the dollars  
23 spent; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the committee identify and review any  
25 conditions placed on funding received from the Federal  
26 Government that is passed through to State agencies for work  
27 force investment programs in this Commonwealth; and be it  
28 further

29 RESOLVED, That the committee study the cost of all work force  
30 investment programs in this Commonwealth with three comparable

1 states in terms of population and diversity of work force; and  
2 be it further

3 RESOLVED, That in compiling this report the committee seek  
4 input from the Department of Labor and Industry, the Department  
5 of Education, the Department of Community and Economic  
6 Development, the Department of Human Services, the Department of  
7 Aging, the Department of Corrections, the Pennsylvania Workforce  
8 Investment Board, the Pennsylvania Commission for Community  
9 Colleges, the Team Pennsylvania Foundation, labor unions and any  
10 other groups or individuals who may have information relevant to  
11 the study; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee  
13 report its findings and recommendations to the Senate no later  
14 than December 31, 2015.