
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 400 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY WHEATLEY, THOMAS, BOYLE, READSHAW AND McCLINTON,
JUNE 14, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, JUNE 14, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to
2 conduct a study of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council
3 on the Arts' funding formula and how resources are allocated
4 for this Commonwealth's African-American, Latin, Asian-
5 American and Native American, newer and rural artistic
6 organizations.

7 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's numerous art organizations are
8 key actors in the economic, educational and social prosperity of
9 Pennsylvania; and

10 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's art organizations provide
11 valuable instructive and cultural experiences to citizens of all
12 ages; and

13 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's art organizations have a
14 significant economic impact and provide for tourism dollars; and

15 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's art organizations tackle a
16 variety of art forms from fine art to extremely abstract art;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth funds its art organizations through
19 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts which
20 utilizes a weighted funding formula to allocate those funds; and

1 WHEREAS, It is recognized by council members on the
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts that the
3 current funding formula advantages arts organizations that are
4 older, that have larger budgets and that tend to be
5 predominantly white in staff, board and audience while
6 disadvantaging organizations that are newer, with smaller
7 budgets and that are disproportionately staffed and governed by
8 members of the African-American, Latin, Asian-American and
9 Native American communities; and

10 WHEREAS, A new funding formula is proposed that is weighted
11 to provide greater opportunities for multicultural arts
12 organizations, arts organizations formed after the year 2000 or
13 arts organizations with an annual budget under \$200,000;
14 therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
16 conduct a study of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on
17 the Arts' current funding formula as well as alternative funding
18 formulas that are weighted to provide greater opportunities for
19 newer, multicultural, rural and LGBT arts organizations; and be
20 it further

21 RESOLVED, That the study include an analysis of the current
22 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on the Arts' funding in the
23 annual Commonwealth budget; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
25 provide recommendations necessary or desirable to improve the
26 funding equity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Council on
27 the Arts' funding formula; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee
29 report to the House of Representatives the result of its study
30 and recommendations regarding the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

1 Council on the Arts' funding formula and file the report with
2 the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives no later than
3 180 days after the adoption of this resolution.