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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 292 Session of  
2018

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INTRODUCED BY WHITE, EICHELBERGER, RAFFERTY, MENSCH, DINNIMAN,  
McILHINNEY AND ALLOWAY, MARCH 28, 2018

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REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 28, 2018

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A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to study the  
2 issue of immunization policies for students residing at  
3 institutions of higher education, conduct a comprehensive  
4 analysis of compliance with existing immunization  
5 requirements, examine the need for updating immunization  
6 policies, suggest options for enhancing voluntary  
7 immunization rates for students and report its findings and  
8 recommendations to the Senate.

9 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is home to some of the finest  
10 higher education institutions in the world; and

11 WHEREAS, Each year thousands of individuals matriculate at  
12 colleges and universities throughout this Commonwealth to pursue  
13 a degree to prepare them for a future career; and

14 WHEREAS, Many individuals who enroll in an institution of  
15 higher education will face numerous academic and nonacademic  
16 adversities associated with obtaining a college, graduate or  
17 professional degree; and

18 WHEREAS, The College and University Student Vaccination Act  
19 requires students residing in housing at institutions of higher  
20 education to receive a one-time vaccination against  
21 meningococcal meningitis disease unless the student seeks an

1 exception to the requirement; and

2 WHEREAS, The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices  
3 within the Centers for Disease and Control Prevention has  
4 revised its guidelines on meningococcal meningitis vaccine  
5 recommendations since the enactment of the College and  
6 University Student Vaccination Act; and

7 WHEREAS, The Senate recognizes the seriousness of a  
8 meningococcal meningitis disease outbreak at colleges and  
9 universities throughout this Commonwealth and wants to study the  
10 issue; therefore be it

11 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission conduct  
12 a comprehensive analysis to evaluate the compliance of each  
13 institution of higher education throughout this Commonwealth  
14 with the College and University Student Vaccination Act; and be  
15 it further

16 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission  
17 determine and report the vaccination rates for meningitis ACWY  
18 by each institution of higher education; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission  
20 determine if institutions of higher education throughout this  
21 Commonwealth are advising and monitoring the need for a catch-up  
22 dose of the meningitis ACWY or meningitis B vaccination; and be  
23 it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission examine  
25 meningitis breakouts at institutions of higher education  
26 throughout the United States and report the fiscal impact of  
27 outbreaks on institutions of higher education; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission evaluate  
29 potential measures to ensure higher voluntary immunization rates  
30 for meningitis ACWY and meningitis B; and be it further

1       RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report  
2 its findings and recommendations to the Senate within 18 months  
3 of the adoption of this resolution.