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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 17 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY WEBSTER, SOLOMON, DONATUCCI, SCHLOSSBERG, McNEILL,  
FREEMAN, ULLMAN, RABB, FRANKEL, ISAACSON, HILL-EVANS,  
SAMUELSON, CALTAGIRONE, DeLUCA, SAPPEY, DEASY, DALEY,  
HOHENSTEIN, SCHWEYER, MARKOSEK, WARREN, CONKLIN, DAVIDSON,  
McCARTER, CIRESI, SHUSTERMAN, SANCHEZ, HANBIDGE, KENYATTA,  
PASHINSKI, DeLISSIO, MALAGARI, MULLINS, KIRKLAND, STURLA AND  
OTTEN, MARCH 5, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON RULES, MARCH 5, 2019

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A RESOLUTION

1 Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives, further  
2 providing for standing committees and subcommittees.

3 RESOLVED, That Rule 43 of the Rules of the House of  
4 Representatives be amended to read:

5 RULE 43

6 Standing Committees and Subcommittees

7 The Committee on Committees shall consist of the Speaker and  
8 15 members of the House, ten of whom shall be members of the  
9 majority party and five of whom shall be members of the minority  
10 party, whose duty shall be to recommend to the House the names  
11 of members who are to serve on the standing committees of the  
12 House. Except for the Speaker, the Majority and Minority  
13 Leaders, Whips, Caucus Chairs, Caucus Secretaries, Caucus  
14 Administrators, Policy Chairs and the chairs and minority chairs  
15 of standing committees, each member shall be entitled to serve

1 on not less than two standing committees.

2 The Speaker shall appoint the chair and vice-chair of each  
3 standing committee when such standing committee has no standing  
4 subcommittees as prescribed herein, except the Committee on  
5 Appropriations which shall also have a vice-chair appointed by  
6 the Speaker; when the standing committee has standing  
7 subcommittees, the Speaker shall appoint a subcommittee chair  
8 for each standing subcommittee. The Speaker shall appoint a  
9 secretary for each standing committee. The Minority Leader shall  
10 appoint the minority chair, minority vice-chair and minority  
11 secretary of each standing committee and the minority  
12 subcommittee chair for each standing subcommittee.

13 Except for members who decline chair status or minority chair  
14 status in writing or who are barred from serving as a chair or  
15 minority chair under this rule, the chair and minority chair of  
16 each standing committee except the Appropriations Committee  
17 shall be limited only to the members of the applicable caucus  
18 with the most seniority as members of their respective caucus.  
19 Whenever there are more caucus members with equal seniority than  
20 available chairs or minority chairs for that caucus, the  
21 selection of a chair or minority chair from among such caucus  
22 members shall be in the discretion of the appointing authority.  
23 The appointing authority may designate the standing committee to  
24 which the appointing authority shall appoint a member as chair  
25 or minority chair without regard to seniority. The Speaker and  
26 the Floor Leader, Whip, Caucus Chair, Caucus Secretary, Caucus  
27 Administrator and Policy Chair of the majority party and  
28 minority party shall not be eligible to serve as chair or  
29 minority chair of any standing committee and no member may serve  
30 as chair or minority chair of more than one standing committee.

1 Any chair or minority chair held by a member who fails to  
2 meet the requirements of this rule shall become vacant by  
3 automatic operation of this rule. If the appointing authority  
4 fails to make an appointment of a chair or minority chair prior  
5 to the organizational meeting of a standing committee or fails  
6 to fill a vacancy within seven calendar days after it occurs,  
7 such position shall be deemed to remain vacant in violation of  
8 this rule. Whenever a chair or minority chair becomes vacant or  
9 remains vacant in violation of this rule, the member of the  
10 applicable caucus who meets the requirements of this rule shall  
11 automatically fill the vacancy and, if there are two or more  
12 such eligible caucus members for any such vacancy or vacancies,  
13 they shall be filled from among such eligible members through a  
14 lottery to be conducted under the supervision of the Chief Clerk  
15 after giving notice of the time and place thereof to all  
16 eligible members, to the Speaker, to the Majority Leader and to  
17 the Minority Leader.

18 Nothing in this rule shall prohibit the appointing authority  
19 from transferring a member from the chair or minority chair of a  
20 standing committee to the chair or minority chair of another  
21 standing committee.

22 Whenever the appointment of a chair or minority chair will  
23 cause the applicable caucus to exceed its permissible allocation  
24 of members on a standing committee, the appointing authority  
25 shall make a temporary transfer of an eligible committee member  
26 to the standing committee vacated by the member appointed as  
27 chair or minority chair until a regular committee appointment  
28 can be made in accordance with the rules of the House. If the  
29 Speaker or Minority Leader fails to make a temporary transfer  
30 within seven calendar days after such appointment, the committee

1 member with the least seniority, who is eligible for transfer,  
2 shall be automatically transferred to the committee vacated by  
3 the newly appointed chair or minority chair and, if more than  
4 one committee member is eligible for such transfer, the transfer  
5 shall be implemented through a lottery conducted under the  
6 supervision of the Chief Clerk.

7 The Speaker of the House, Floor Leader of the majority party  
8 and the Floor Leader of the minority party shall be ex-officio  
9 members of all standing committees, without the right to vote  
10 and they shall be excluded from any limitation as to the number  
11 of members on the committees or in counting a quorum.

12 Twenty-four standing committees of the House[, each to  
13 consist of 25 members except the Committee on Appropriations,  
14 which shall consist of 37 members,] are hereby created. In  
15 addition, there are hereby created 50 standing subcommittees.

16 All standing committees shall consist of [15 members of the  
17 majority party and 10 members of the minority party, except the  
18 Committee on Appropriations which shall consist of 22 members of  
19 the majority party and 15 members of the minority party.] a  
20 number of members as determined by the Committee on Committees  
21 of the majority party and the minority party apportioned as  
22 nearly as possible to reflect the percentage of the membership  
23 of the majority and minority parties in the House. The quorum  
24 for each of the standing committees and subcommittees shall be  
25 no less than the majority of said committees. The following are  
26 the standing committees and subcommittees thereof:

- 27 (1) Aging and Older Adult Services  
28 (a) Subcommittee on Care and Services  
29 (b) Subcommittee on Programs and Benefits  
30 (2) Agriculture and Rural Affairs

- 1 (3) Appropriations
- 2 (a) Subcommittee on Health and Human Services
- 3 (b) Subcommittee on Education
- 4 (c) Subcommittee on Economic Impact and Infrastructure
- 5 (d) Subcommittee on Fiscal Policy
- 6 (e) Subcommittee on Criminal Justice
- 7 (f) Subcommittee on Government and Financial Oversight
- 8 (4) Children and Youth
- 9 (5) Commerce
- 10 (a) Subcommittee on Financial Services and Banking
- 11 (b) Subcommittee on Housing
- 12 (c) Subcommittee on Economic Development
- 13 (d) Subcommittee on Small Business
- 14 (e) Subcommittee on Automation and Technology
- 15 (6) Consumer Affairs
- 16 (a) Subcommittee on Public Utilities
- 17 (b) Subcommittee on Telecommunications
- 18 (7) Education
- 19 (a) Subcommittee on Basic Education
- 20 (b) Subcommittee on Higher Education
- 21 (c) Subcommittee on Special Education
- 22 (d) Subcommittee on Career and Technical Education
- 23 (8) Environmental Resources and Energy
- 24 (a) Subcommittee on Energy
- 25 (b) Subcommittee on Mining
- 26 (c) Subcommittee on Parks and Forests
- 27 (9) Finance
- 28 (a) Subcommittee on Tax Modernization and Reform
- 29 (10) Game and Fisheries
- 30 (11) Gaming Oversight

- 1       (12) Health
- 2           (a) Subcommittee on Health Facilities
- 3           (b) Subcommittee on Health Care
- 4       (13) Human Services
- 5           (a) Subcommittee on Mental Health
- 6           (b) Subcommittee on Drugs and Alcohol
- 7       (14) Insurance
- 8       (15) Judiciary
- 9           (a) Subcommittee on Crime and Corrections
- 10          (b) Subcommittee on Courts
- 11          (c) Subcommittee on Family Law
- 12       (16) Labor and Industry
- 13       (17) Liquor Control
- 14           (a) Subcommittee on Licensing
- 15           (b) Subcommittee on Marketing
- 16       (18) Local Government
- 17           (a) Subcommittee on Boroughs
- 18           (b) Subcommittee on Counties
- 19           (c) Subcommittee on Townships
- 20       (19) Professional Licensure
- 21       (20) State Government
- 22           (a) Subcommittee on Government Operations
- 23           (b) Subcommittee on Federal-State Relations
- 24       (21) Tourism and Recreational Development
- 25           (a) Subcommittee on Arts and Entertainment
- 26           (b) Subcommittee on Recreation
- 27           (c) Subcommittee on Travel Promotion, History and
- 28       Heritage
- 29       (22) Transportation
- 30           (a) Subcommittee on Highways

- 1           (b) Subcommittee on Public Transportation
- 2           (c) Subcommittee on Transportation Safety
- 3           (d) Subcommittee on Aviation
- 4           (e) Subcommittee on Railroads
- 5       (23) Urban Affairs
- 6           (a) Subcommittee on Cities, Counties - First Class
- 7           (b) Subcommittee on Cities, Counties - Second Class
- 8           (c) Subcommittee on Cities, Third Class
- 9       (24) Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness
- 10          (a) Subcommittee on Military and Veterans Facilities
- 11          (b) Subcommittee on Security and Emergency Response
- 12       Readiness