

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 147 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY GREGORY, SCHMITT, DiGIROLAMO, RYAN, McNEILL, T. DAVIS, MASSER, MURT, NEILSON, MILLARD, READSHAW, ZIMMERMAN, TOOHL, STRUZZI, HOWARD, HOHENSTEIN, HERSHEY, KAUFER AND HEFFLEY, MARCH 13, 2019

AS AMENDED, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JUNE 5, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a
2 comprehensive review of unused properties, buildings and
3 facilities owned by the Commonwealth and how to repurpose
4 those properties, buildings and facilities for use as
5 facilities appropriate for addiction treatment and recovery
6 supports and to issue a report.

7 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth has the highest rate of overdose
8 deaths in the United States; and

9 WHEREAS, The life-saving measures being taken by first
10 responders to rescue individuals from the brink of death after a
11 drug overdose is only the first step to recovery; and

12 WHEREAS, A continuum of care for overdose survivors and
13 others who struggle with substance use disorders is critical to
14 their hope for recovery; and

15 WHEREAS, Every possible resource needs to be utilized to
16 address and help prevent the high number of overdoses that occur
17 in this Commonwealth; and

18 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth owns properties, buildings and
19 facilities that are not currently in use; and

1       WHEREAS, Unused Commonwealth properties could potentially be  
2 used to address the serious lack of capacity in facilities  
3 operated by addiction treatment providers; therefore be it

4       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint  
5 State Government Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of  
6 unused properties, buildings and facilities owned by the  
7 Commonwealth and how to repurpose those properties, buildings  
8 and facilities for use as facilities appropriate for addiction  
9 treatment and recovery supports; and be it further

10       RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission prepare  
11 a report of its findings that shall, at a minimum:

12           (1) Identify all unused properties, buildings and  
13 facilities owned by the Commonwealth.

14           (2) Determine, after consultation with addiction  
15 treatment providers and individuals from the construction  
16 industry, how to convert the unused properties, buildings and  
17 facilities into facilities appropriate for addiction  
18 treatment.

19           (3) Include a map of the available properties, buildings  
20 and facilities with an overlay of the number of overdose  
21 deaths in each county.

22           (4) Analyze the potential costs of repurposing the  
23 unused properties, buildings and facilities, including ways  
24 the Commonwealth can encourage private and public  
25 partnerships.

26           (5) LIST OTHER POSSIBLE USES FOR THE UNUSED PROPERTIES, <--  
27 BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES UNRELATED TO ADDICTION TREATMENT AND  
28 RECOVERY SUPPORTS.

29           (6) RECOMMEND WAYS MUNICIPALITIES COULD SIMILARLY  
30 CAPITALIZE ON THEIR OWN UNUSED PROPERTIES.

1           ~~(5)~~ (7)   Develop a list of services that could be           <--  
2           provided if the unused properties, buildings and facilities  
3           were repurposed, including, but not limited to, substance use  
4           disorder treatment programs and recovery support services  
5           with or without the support of addiction medications on a  
6           hospital, nonhospital, residential or outpatient basis, in  
7           addition to recovery schools, recovery housing and recovery  
8           community centers with special emphasis on programs near  
9           college and university campuses.

10           ~~(6)~~ (8)   Contain any information that the Joint State           <--  
11           Government Commission determines necessary from the  
12           Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, Department of  
13           General Services, Department of Health and Department of  
14           Human Services;  
15           and be it further

16           RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission report  
17           its findings to the House of Representatives no later than one  
18           year after the adoption of this resolution.