

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 205 Session of  
2022

---

INTRODUCED BY HOWARD, HILL-EVANS, MADDEN, LONGIETTI,  
D. WILLIAMS, GUZMAN, KINSEY, SAPPEY, SANCHEZ, SCHLOSSBERG,  
DELLOSO, PARKER AND CIRESI, MAY 23, 2022

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MAY 23, 2022

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a  
2 comprehensive study on the feasibility of paying student  
3 teachers and student social workers for field placements,  
4 internships and student teaching.

5 WHEREAS, There is a nationwide shortage of teachers and  
6 social workers; and

7 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the shortage  
8 and amplified burnout; and

9 WHEREAS, Teachers who earn less than \$45,000 have a median  
10 salary that is nearly 13% lower than other Pennsylvanians who  
11 have a bachelor's degree, and teachers with a master's degree  
12 who earn less than \$45,000 have a median salary 33% lower than  
13 other Pennsylvanians with a master's degree; and

14 WHEREAS, To obtain a license in the field of social work, an  
15 individual must obtain a master's degree while the median annual  
16 wage for a social worker is \$50,000; and

17 WHEREAS, There are many barriers to entering the teaching and  
18 social work professions such as the high cost of education, low

1 pay, stress of the job which leads to burnout and field  
2 placement requirements; and

3 WHEREAS, Prospective teachers and social workers are required  
4 to do field placements, internships and student teaching in  
5 order to enter the profession, but are often not compensated for  
6 this work; and

7 WHEREAS, The requirement to complete field placements,  
8 internships and student teaching without adequate compensation  
9 can cause students to choose not to pursue a career in teaching  
10 or social work or to delay their career; and

11 WHEREAS, It is important to have sufficient staffing of  
12 teachers and social workers as they fill vital roles in society  
13 and are responsible for the education, safety and well-being of  
14 our children; therefore be it

15 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint  
16 State Government Commission to conduct a comprehensive study on  
17 the feasibility of compensating student teachers and student  
18 social workers for field placements, internships and student  
19 teaching; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That, at a minimum, the study include:

21 (1) The current need for teachers and social workers.

22 (2) The difficulties prospective teachers and social  
23 workers face by having to complete required field placements,  
24 internships and student teaching without being adequately  
25 compensated.

26 (3) The issues around, and feasibility of, adequately  
27 compensating students for required field placements,  
28 internships and student teaching through direct and indirect  
29 compensation, including, but not limited to, cash payments,  
30 tuition waivers and tuition reimbursements;

1 and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission submit a  
3 report of the study's findings with legislative recommendations  
4 to the following within a year of the adoption of this  
5 resolution:

6 (1) The chair and minority chair of the Education  
7 Committee of the House of Representatives.

8 (2) The chair and minority chair of the Human Services  
9 Committee of the House of Representatives.

10 (3) The chair and minority chair of the Professional  
11 Licensure Committee of the House of Representatives.