

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 53 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, ARGALL, J. WARD, MENSCH, MARTIN, YAW, YUDICHAK, PITTMAN, MASTRIANO, STEFANO, SCHWANK AND AUMENT, MARCH 19, 2021

SENATOR LANGERHOLC, TRANSPORTATION, AS AMENDED, APRIL 20, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee to
2 conduct a study and issue a report, by 12 months from the
3 date of the adoption of this resolution, on the Pennsylvania
4 Department of Transportation's highway maintenance funding.

5 WHEREAS, Reliable and sustainable transportation funding
6 remains a critical issue in this Commonwealth; and

7 WHEREAS, Investments in State road and bridge construction
8 contracts, public transportation capital projects, local road
9 and bridge assistance, certain turnpike expansion projects,
10 multi-modal capital projects and the condition of dirt, gravel
11 or low-volume roads are critical to highway safety, mobility and
12 economic development; and

13 WHEREAS, Under 75 Pa.C.S. Ch. 91, the Pennsylvania Department
14 of Transportation (PennDOT) provides maintenance to highways
15 using a funding formula that has not been updated since 1997;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, In 2002, the Legislative Budget and Finance
18 Committee (LBFC) conducted a performance audit of PennDOT, a

1 portion of which assessed the 1997 changes; and

2 WHEREAS, At the time, LBFC found the new formula resulted in  
3 a fairer allocation of maintenance money; and

4 WHEREAS, A contemporary review comparing the conditions from  
5 1997 to present and projections for the foreseeable future is  
6 both appropriate and vital as a valuable tool to assess our  
7 State highway maintenance funding program; and

8 WHEREAS, The study should consist of the following:

9 (1) A review of the funding formula for each of  
10 PennDOT's county maintenance offices (CMOs), including  
11 maintenance needs versus maintenance allocation.

12 (2) An analysis of the data under paragraph (1) to  
13 determine whether CMOs may have been overfunded or  
14 underfunded.

15 (3) A comparison by CMOs of the condition of highways,  
16 bridges and other major assets to ascertain efficacy of  
17 management, funding provided and results achieved.

18 (4) PennDOT's lane miles and bridges in each CMO,  
19 including the number and percentage that are three-digit and  
20 four-digit highways.

21 (5) Vehicle miles traveled in each CMO. This includes  
22 larger truck vehicle miles, the percentage of vehicle miles  
23 that is from residents versus out-of-State vehicles and  
24 vehicle miles on bonded roads.

25 (6) State emergency funding totals by CMOs for acts of  
26 nature, such as flooding and landslides.

27 (7) A comparison among the ~~12~~ PennDOT districts on the <--  
28 effects of winter maintenance, such as freeze/thaw cycles,  
29 snowfall averages and number, type and duration of winter  
30 events.

1           (8) The percentage of State highway maintenance funding  
2 that goes toward major, fixed expenditures, including  
3 personnel salary and benefit costs in each CMO.

4           (9) A review of PennDOT's Road Maintenance and  
5 Preservation (Road MaP) program created in 2016, including  
6 projects completed and selection criteria for these projects  
7 and future fiscal stability of the program.

8           (10) County populations from 1997 to the present and  
9 projections for the foreseeable future;

10 therefore be it

11       RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Legislative Budget and  
12 Finance Committee to conduct a study and issue a report, by 12  
13 months from the date of the adoption of this resolution, on the  
14 Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's highway maintenance  
15 funding.