
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 144 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY AUMENT, HUGHES, MARTIN, FONTANA, YUDICHAK,
PITTMAN, COMITTA, BAKER AND STEFANO, JUNE 21, 2021

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, JUNE 21, 2021

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 Establishing the 2030 Commission on Education and Economic
2 Competitiveness.

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has made numerous incremental changes
4 and revisions to the Commonwealth's education system in the last
5 20 years that have been directed by both the General Assembly as
6 well as the United States Department of Education; and

7 WHEREAS, Changes to curriculum and standards have been
8 aligned with partisan swings at both the national and state
9 level; and

10 WHEREAS, The pandemic has highlighted weaknesses and
11 disparities in our current education system that cannot be
12 appropriately addressed through a piece-meal approach; and

13 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has not employed a long-term
14 strategy for educational goals or a vision of what education in
15 Pennsylvania will look like in the next decade and beyond; and

16 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's current education system has many
17 governing bodies, including the Department of Education, State
18 Board of Education and 500 school districts that are

1 simultaneously making decisions regarding curriculum, standards
2 and achievement without a clearly articulated and agreed-to
3 predominant goal; and

4 WHEREAS, Leading research on the world's strongest education
5 systems has shown that a systemic approach to education redesign
6 is what separates high-performing education systems from the
7 those that struggle; and

8 WHEREAS, Shared goals articulated in long-term planning
9 create buy in and feeling of investment from teachers,
10 administrators, parents and taxpayers all working toward common
11 education objectives; and

12 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's future depends on becoming a stronger
13 economic competitor to its neighboring states and other
14 countries in a global economy; and

15 WHEREAS, Automation presents both a challenge and an
16 opportunity as expected declines in office support and clerical,
17 sales, manufacturing and production pose a looming problem for
18 Pennsylvania as they are the largest providers of jobs in this
19 Commonwealth; and

20 WHEREAS, Automation is also expected to create jobs with
21 expected growth in data analytics, machine learning and process
22 automation and an opportunity for workers who are displaced to
23 be reskilled to fill these new positions; and

24 WHEREAS, Intentionally redesigned education systems provide
25 stable incomes and lifelong careers, and improvement to
26 education outcomes are associated with declining costs on
27 prisons and health care, a decreased reliance on social safety
28 nets and improved civic engagement; and

29 WHEREAS, The General Assembly desires the creation of an
30 education vision for this Commonwealth that provides a

1 successful learning environment for all students; therefore be
2 it

3 RESOLVED, (the House of Representatives concurring), That the
4 General Assembly establish the 2030 Commission on Education and
5 Economic Competitiveness consisting of the following members:

6 (1) the chair and minority chair of the Education
7 Committee of the Senate and the chair and minority chair of
8 the Education Committee of the House of Representatives;

9 (2) the chair and minority chair of the Labor and
10 Industry Committee of the Senate and the chair and minority
11 chair of the Labor and Industry Committee of the House of
12 Representatives;

13 (3) two legislators from each of the four caucuses to be
14 appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate and the
15 Speaker of the House of Representatives in consultation with
16 the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the Senate and
17 the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the House of
18 Representatives;

19 (4) the Secretary of Education;

20 (5) the Secretary of Labor and Industry; and

21 (6) an individual from an administrative agency
22 appointed by the Governor;

23 and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the 2030 Commission on Education and Economic
25 Competitiveness consult with the Subcommittee on Education
26 Planning for advisement on the long-term education goals of the
27 Commonwealth, including interim goals, and whose membership
28 shall consist of the following members representing the
29 following organizations:

30 (1) two members of the 2030 Commission on Education and

1 Economic Competitiveness;

2 (2) the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Child
3 Development and Early Learning;

4 (3) the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Elementary and
5 Secondary Education;

6 (4) the Deputy Secretary of the Office of Postsecondary
7 and Higher Education;

8 (5) the Pennsylvania School Boards Association;

9 (6) the Pennsylvania State Education Association;

10 (7) the Pennsylvania chapter of the American Federation
11 of Teachers;

12 (8) the Pennsylvania Association of School Business
13 Officials;

14 (9) the Pennsylvania Association of School
15 Administrators;

16 (10) the Pennsylvania Principals Association;

17 (11) the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units;

18 (12) the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and
19 Teacher Educators;

20 (13) the Pennsylvania Association of Rural and Small
21 Schools;

22 (14) the Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter
23 Schools;

24 (15) the African American Charter School Coalition;

25 (16) the Pennsylvania Association of Career and
26 Technical Administrators;

27 (17) the Pennsylvania Association of Independent
28 Schools;

29 (18) the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education;

30 (19) the Pennsylvania Commission for Community Colleges;

- 1 (20) the Association of Independent Colleges and
2 Universities of Pennsylvania;
- 3 (21) The Pennsylvania State University;
- 4 (22) the University of Pittsburgh;
- 5 (23) Temple University;
- 6 (24) Lincoln University;
- 7 (25) Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology;
- 8 (26) the Pennsylvania College of Technology;
- 9 (27) the Deputy Secretary for Workforce Development;
- 10 (28) the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry;
- 11 (29) the Pennsylvania American Federation of Labor and
12 Congress of Industrial Organizations;
- 13 (30) the Manufacturers Association;
- 14 (31) the National Federation of Independent Business
15 Pennsylvania;
- 16 (32) the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau;
- 17 (33) the Hospital & Healthsystem Association of
18 Pennsylvania;
- 19 (34) the Service Employees International Union
20 Pennsylvania State Council;
- 21 (35) the Secretary of Community and Economic Development
22 or a designee;
- 23 (36) the Arc of Pennsylvania;
- 24 (37) the National Association for the Advancement of
25 Colored People Pennsylvania State Conference; and
- 26 (38) the Spanish-American Civic Association;

27 and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the 2030 Commission on Education and Economic
29 Competitiveness has the authority to add additional membership
30 to the Subcommittee on Education Planning and create subgroups

1 within the Subcommittee on Education Planning as it sees fit;
2 and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the 2030 Commission on Education and Economic
4 Competitiveness hold its first meeting within 45 days of the
5 adoption of this concurrent resolution and meet no less than
6 quarterly; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That in their first meeting, the 2030 Commission on
8 Education and Economic Competitiveness designate two members who
9 will serve as Chairs of the Subcommittee on Education Planning;
10 and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Subcommittee on Education Planning hold
12 its first meeting within 60 days of the adoption of this
13 concurrent resolution and hold monthly meetings to make
14 recommendations regarding long-term educational goals for the
15 following:

16 (1) early childhood education and necessary supports;

17 (2) an aligned instructional system with special
18 attention to curriculum, assessment, pedagogical approach and
19 standards that span early childhood education through career
20 and technical education and higher education;

21 (3) education environments that are conducive for all
22 students to learn, including school infrastructure;

23 (4) equitable access to education and educational
24 resources to ensure students of unique needs are successful;

25 (5) a holistic approach to education that includes a
26 focus on development of well-rounded individuals through
27 research-based competencies and dispositions associated with
28 postsecondary education, career and life-readiness;

29 (6) professional work environments for educators,
30 support staff and school employees in K-12 schools;

- 1 (7) creation of a leadership development system for K-12
2 schools;
- 3 (8) recruitment and attainment of high-performing
4 educators;
- 5 (9) community partnerships in the education system;
- 6 (10) meeting the employment needs of the Commonwealth;
- 7 (11) creation of a system that effectively re-tools
8 displaced workers;
- 9 (12) addressing the impact of the Commonwealth's
10 changing demographics; and
- 11 (13) effective governance and accountability;

12 and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That the Subcommittee on Education Planning
14 include in its report recommendations on parent and community
15 participation in the education system as well as the challenges
16 and opportunities Pennsylvania's changing demographics present
17 to the Commonwealth's education system; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That the Subcommittee on Education Planning hold a
19 series of hearings throughout this Commonwealth to gather
20 feedback on stated topics from representatives of this
21 Commonwealth's major industries, including agriculture,
22 healthcare, banking, steel, industrial machinery and publishing;
23 and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That nothing precludes the 2030 Commission on
25 Education and Economic Competitiveness and Subcommittee on
26 Education Planning from utilizing the expertise of a nonprofit
27 entity that has experience in the creation of long-term
28 education planning efforts; and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the Subcommittee on Education Planning make
30 regular reports to the commission and issue a final report with

1 legislative recommendations within 12 months of its creation;
2 and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That, upon receipt of the report from the
4 Subcommittee on Education Planning, the 2030 Commission on
5 Education and Economic Competitiveness seek public comment on
6 the proposed long-term vision for a period that is no less than
7 three months and issue a final report with legislative
8 recommendations to the General Assembly within 18 months of its
9 creation.