

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 288 Session of  
2022

---

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, BARTOLOTTA, SCHWANK, MENSCH, GORDNER,  
PITTMAN, STEFANO AND MASTRIANO, MAY 3, 2022

---

REFERRED TO AGING AND YOUTH, MAY 3, 2022

---

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a  
2 study of long-term care facilities' impact relating to  
3 Medicaid funds in this Commonwealth.

4 WHEREAS, Nursing homes and assisted living facilities in  
5 Pennsylvania are expensive; and

6 WHEREAS, Private health insurance policies generally do not  
7 cover long-term care; and

8 WHEREAS, Very few people purchase private long-term care  
9 insurance policies and Medicare coverage for long-term care  
10 services is limited; and

11 WHEREAS, Medicaid has become a very common source of funding  
12 for long-term care; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2019, approximately 72% of nursing home residents  
14 in Pennsylvania used Medicaid to pay for their nursing home  
15 care; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Senate direct the Joint State Government  
17 Commission to conduct a study of long-term care facilities'  
18 impact relating to Medicaid funds, including:

1 (1) the work environment, as it pertains to the level of  
2 care provided in nursing facilities, including those that  
3 receive Medicaid funds, personal care homes and licensed  
4 assisted living residences;

5 (2) wage rates for aides, attendants, staff nurses,  
6 direct care staff and contract nurses working in these  
7 facilities;

8 (3) rates charged by contract staffing agencies to  
9 provide workers;

10 (4) the increase in wages paid to staff nurses and  
11 direct care staff working in these facilities from 2018  
12 through today using the latest available figures;

13 (5) the increase in wages paid to contract nurses and  
14 direct care staff working in these facilities from 2018  
15 through today using the latest available figures;

16 (6) the increase in wages paid to staff nurses and  
17 direct care staff as compared to the nation's inflation rate  
18 over the same time period;

19 (7) the increase in wages paid to contract nurses and  
20 direct care staff as compared to the nation's inflation rate  
21 over the same time period;

22 (8) the level of care required by residents in these  
23 facilities from 2018 through today;

24 (9) whether facilities needed to increase staffing  
25 levels during the same time period;

26 (10) the ratio of staff nurses, contract nurses and  
27 direct care staff working in these facilities from 2018  
28 through today using the latest available figures; and

29 (11) whether facilities experienced an increase in need  
30 for staff members with specific expertise or certification,

1 including resident medication administration;

2 and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission issue a  
4 report of its findings, along with any statutory or regulatory  
5 recommendations, to the General Assembly within seven months of  
6 the adoption of this resolution.