
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 595 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY MAHONEY, BURNS, V. BROWN, CALTAGIRONE, COHEN,
DeLUCA, GINGRICH, HARHAI, HARKINS, KINSEY, KIRKLAND, KORTZ,
KOTIK, MILLARD, MILNE, MIRABITO, MURT, NEILSON, O'BRIEN,
O'NEILL, READSHAW, ROZZI, THOMAS AND WHITE, JANUARY 8, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, JANUARY 8, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Pennsylvania State Police's services to the
2 citizens of this Commonwealth and critical need for
3 additional funding.

4 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police was created by an act
5 of the General Assembly in 1905 and was the first uniformed
6 police organization of its kind in the United States of America;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police devotes about one-
9 third of its on-duty time to criminal investigations and support
10 services and the other two-thirds to traffic enforcement and
11 other public safety concerns, including forensic laboratory
12 services, prescription drug disposal programs, maintenance of
13 the Megan's Law sex offender registry and providing criminal and
14 firearms background checks; and

15 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police has been chronically
16 understaffed, leaving numerous troops, barracks and stations
17 without sufficient troopers across this Commonwealth and

1 presenting a critical and pressing public safety concern; and
2 WHEREAS, Budget constraints have severely curtailed or
3 eliminated intern, associate and trainee programs meant to
4 prepare the next generation of law enforcement, jeopardizing
5 future generations' ability to adequately address changing
6 public safety needs; and

7 WHEREAS, Due to declining revenues and budget cuts,
8 municipalities across this Commonwealth have been eliminating
9 their local police forces, requiring the Pennsylvania State
10 Police to patrol increasingly more local municipalities without
11 commensurate increases in funding; and

12 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police's annual appropriation
13 has barely kept up with the rate of inflation in spite of steady
14 increases in population, services required and certain drug use,
15 as well as evolving public safety needs; and

16 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has the third highest number of heroin
17 users in the country and is facing an epidemic that requires
18 additional vigilance and efforts to curb its production,
19 distribution and associated crime; and

20 WHEREAS, The recent amendment, in November 2013, of the act
21 of December 19, 1988 (P.L.1262, No.156), known as the Local
22 Option Small Games of Chance Act, ("Act 90 of 2013") is expected
23 to produce an additional \$156 million in revenues each year from
24 the expansion of small games of chance; therefore be it

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the Governor
26 to work with the General Assembly to appropriate the first \$100
27 million in revenues from Act 90 of 2013 to the Pennsylvania
28 State Police, in addition to its current annual appropriations,
29 for the purposes of hiring, training and deploying sufficient
30 numbers of troopers and support staff to accomplish its growing

1 mission.