
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 119 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY BOBACK, SCHLOSSBERG, HELM, RYAN, PICKETT, HOWARD,
STEPHENS, MIZGORSKI, KAUFFMAN, SAMUELSON, M. MACKENZIE AND
STRUZZI, JUNE 24, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH, JUNE 24, 2021

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a
2 study and make recommendations concerning the development and
3 implementation of an integrated child welfare information
4 system for child welfare programs overseen by the Department
5 of Human Services and administered by county children and
6 youth agencies.

7 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth's child welfare system is
8 administered by the counties, each of which currently use one of
9 six different case management information systems and none of
10 which allow for the sharing of information between counties; and

11 WHEREAS, The inability to share information through an
12 integrated system between counties creates a situation whereby
13 patterns indicating abuse are less likely to be detected and
14 relevant information is less likely to be known, increasing the
15 likelihood that abusers will evade detection; and

16 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, in
17 its 2014 Annual Child Abuse Report, indicated that it had
18 implemented phase one of the Child Welfare Information Solution,
19 purporting to allow for the exchange of information across

1 counties and eliminating gaps in information throughout the life
2 of a case; and

3 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Health and Human
4 Services Administration for Children and Families, in 2016,
5 published regulations pertaining to the Comprehensive Child
6 Welfare Information System, which provided guidance, flexibility
7 and both technical and financial support for states that chose
8 to update and integrate their child welfare information systems;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Years after it was first identified as a priority,
11 Pennsylvania still does not have a system that allows for the
12 sharing of information between counties; and

13 WHEREAS, The Department of Human Services has been unable to
14 provide specific information about past or anticipated progress
15 on the project; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission conduct
17 a study of and report on the status of this project; and be it
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That the report shall include:

20 (1) A detailed summary of expenditures and progress.

21 (2) A projected timeline for the project.

22 (3) Identification of available resources including
23 those available through the United States Department of
24 Health and Human Services Administration for Children and
25 Families.

26 (4) Projected costs.

27 (5) Recommendations on legislative action that may
28 assist the Department of Human Services or otherwise expedite
29 the process of developing and implementing an integrated
30 statewide child welfare case management system in the

1 Commonwealth;

2 and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the report be submitted to the House Children

4 and Youth Committee and the House Appropriations Committee

5 within six months of the adoption of this resolution.