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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 211 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, NOVEMBER 12, 2021

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REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, NOVEMBER 12, 2021

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A RESOLUTION

1 Establishing a Special Committee on Senate Address to pursue  
2 possible address under section 7 of Article VI of the  
3 Constitution of Pennsylvania relating to Schuylkill County  
4 Commissioner George F. Halcovage, Jr.

5 WHEREAS, George F. Halcovage, Jr., is one of the three  
6 Commissioners of Schuylkill County; and

7 WHEREAS, The office of county commissioner is critical to  
8 local government administration in this Commonwealth; and

9 WHEREAS, Residents have the right to have complete confidence  
10 in their locally elected officials; and

11 WHEREAS, In March 2021, a civil lawsuit was filed against  
12 Commissioner Halcovage by four female Schuylkill County  
13 employees, detailing hundreds of allegations, including  
14 statements that Halcovage routinely made sexually charged  
15 statements, made unwanted sexual advances and pressured female  
16 workers into performing sexual favors; and

17 WHEREAS, In May 2021, a judge granted two sexual violence  
18 protection from abuse orders against Commissioner Halcovage; and

19 WHEREAS, In June 2021, the Judiciary Committee of the House

1 of Representatives unanimously passed a resolution calling for  
2 further investigation of Commissioner Halcavage; and

3 WHEREAS, On June 30, 2021, it was announced in a county  
4 investigation that Commissioner Halcavage violated county  
5 policy, including those on sexual harassment and discrimination  
6 and physical and verbal abuse; and

7 WHEREAS, In the internal human resources investigation, it  
8 was concluded that, had Commissioner Halcavage been a county  
9 employee, he would have been fired; and

10 WHEREAS, In October 2021, the United States Equal Employment  
11 Opportunity Commission found that Commissioner Halcavage had  
12 subjected and continues to subject female employees to  
13 discrimination and retaliation by way of further harassment; and

14 WHEREAS, Commissioner Halcavage has refused to resign his  
15 position as county commissioner; and

16 WHEREAS, Stability, integrity and leadership in the  
17 Schuylkill County commissioners' offices is essential to  
18 providing for the proper government administration of the  
19 county; therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate establish a Special Committee on  
21 Senate Address to pursue possible address under section 7 of  
22 Article VI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania relating to  
23 Commissioner George F. Halcavage, Jr.; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the Special Committee on Senate Address  
25 consist of three members of the majority party appointed by the  
26 President pro tempore of the Senate, one of whom shall be  
27 designated as the chairperson of the committee; and be it  
28 further

29 RESOLVED, That the Special Committee on Senate Address also  
30 consist of three members of the minority party appointed by the

1 President pro tempore of the Senate, in consultation with the  
2 Minority Leader; and be it further

3       RESOLVED, That the President pro tempore of the Senate serve  
4 on the Special Committee on Senate Address as an ex-officio  
5 voting member of the committee; and be it further

6       RESOLVED, That the Special Committee on Senate Address submit  
7 a report of its findings and recommendations to the Senate no  
8 later than 90 days following the appointment of its members; and  
9 be it further

10       RESOLVED, That, within 24 hours of the adoption of this  
11 resolution, the Sergeant-at-Arms serve this resolution upon  
12 George F. Halcovage, Jr., Commissioner of Schuylkill County.