
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 483 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY TEPLITZ, FARNESE, KILLION, RAFFERTY, COSTA AND
BREWSTER, OCTOBER 25, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 25, 2016

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of December 5 through 11, 2016, as
2 "Government Reform Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Residents of this Commonwealth expect and deserve a
4 more accountable, efficient, transparent, fiscally responsible
5 and effective government; and

6 WHEREAS, The Center for Public Integrity's State Integrity
7 Investigation, released in November 2015, ranked Pennsylvania
8 45th in the country in government integrity, and Pennsylvania
9 was 1 of 11 states that received a failing grade; and

10 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania received failing grades in seven
11 subtopics, including political financing, electoral oversight,
12 legislative accountability, judicial accountability, State civil
13 service management, ethics enforcement agencies and State
14 pension fund management; and

15 WHEREAS, The failing grades marked a slide for Pennsylvania
16 from the 20th place ranking for the Commonwealth earned in a
17 similar assessment published in 2012; and

18 WHEREAS, A positive assessment in the report for Pennsylvania

1 is the Commonwealth's fourth place ranking for laws and
2 processes that provide public access to government records; and

3 WHEREAS, While the Commonwealth's fourth place national
4 ranking shows that progress has been made in the area of
5 government transparency, the grade received by Pennsylvania
6 indicates that the effort to improve government transparency
7 must continue; and

8 WHEREAS, Based on a published academic study, 58% of
9 Americans are most concerned about corruption of government
10 officials; and

11 WHEREAS, The findings of this study, published by Chapman
12 University, emphasize that reform is not a choice, but a
13 necessity; and

14 WHEREAS, "Government Reform Week" is a time to take stock of
15 the function of State government over the past year, while
16 looking forward to the reforms that should be enacted in the
17 next year; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of December 5
19 through 11, 2016, as "Government Reform Week" in Pennsylvania.