
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 315 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY SHUSTERMAN, D. MILLER, KHAN, KINSEY, HOHENSTEIN,
KAZEEM, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, CONKLIN, HADDOCK AND HOWARD,
FEBRUARY 5, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES, FEBRUARY 5, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Directing the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a
2 study on public transportation services for individuals with
3 disabilities, establish a legislative task force and advisory
4 committee and issue a report of findings and recommendations
5 to the House of Representatives.

6 WHEREAS, This Commonwealth is the fifth most populous state
7 in the United States with diverse demographics and ever-changing
8 public transportation needs; and

9 WHEREAS, An estimated 25.5 million Americans have
10 disabilities that make traveling outside the home difficult; and

11 WHEREAS, More than half of these Americans, approximately
12 13.4 million, are adults between 18 and 64 years of age, which
13 is the age group with typically high labor force participation;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, For these approximately 13.4 million Americans,
16 adequate, efficient, reliable and easily accessible public
17 transportation affects their ability to travel for work,
18 errands, socializing and other activities; and

19 WHEREAS, All Pennsylvanians deserve the right to use public

1 transportation successfully and easily; therefore be it
2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Joint
3 State Government Commission to conduct a study on public
4 transportation services for individuals with disabilities,
5 establish a legislative task force and advisory committee and
6 issue a report of findings and recommendations to the House of
7 Representatives; and be it further

8 RESOLVED, That the legislative task force be composed of four
9 members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker
10 of the House of Representatives, with two members recommended by
11 the Majority Leader of the House of Representatives and two
12 members recommended by the Minority Leader of the House of
13 Representatives; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission, as part
15 of the study, establish an advisory committee consisting of the
16 following members:

17 (1) a representative of the transportation division of
18 the Department of Aging;

19 (2) a representative of the Office of Developmental
20 Programs of the Department of Human Services;

21 (3) a representative of the Medical Assistance
22 Transportation Program of the Department of Human Services;

23 (4) a representative of the Office of Vocational
24 Rehabilitation of the Department of Labor and Industry;

25 (5) a representative of the Bureau of Public
26 Transportation of the Department of Transportation;

27 (6) a representative of the Center for Rural
28 Pennsylvania;

29 (7) a representative of the Pennsylvania Public
30 Transportation Association;

1 (8) a representative of the County Commissioners
2 Association of Pennsylvania;

3 (9) a representative of the Southeastern Pennsylvania
4 Transportation Authority or a transportation authority
5 serving a county of the first class;

6 (10) a representative of Pittsburgh Regional Transit or
7 a transportation authority serving a county of the second
8 class;

9 (11) a representative of a transportation authority
10 serving a county of the second class A, third class or fourth
11 class;

12 (12) a representative of a transportation authority
13 serving a county of the fifth class, sixth class, seventh
14 class or eighth class;

15 (13) a representative of a transportation network
16 company;

17 (14) a representative of a taxicab or limousine company;

18 (15) a representative of a labor union representing
19 transit and allied workers in this Commonwealth;

20 (16) a lawyer with legal expertise in disability law and
21 accessible transportation;

22 (17) a representative or self-advocate for individuals
23 with intellectual and developmental disabilities;

24 (18) a representative or self-advocate for individuals
25 with physical disabilities;

26 (19) a representative of an organization that offers
27 community participation supports; and

28 (20) any other representatives from other organizations
29 that are deemed appropriate by the Joint State Government
30 Commission;

1 and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission, as part
3 of the study:

4 (1) examine this Commonwealth's current needs and system
5 capacity for providing public transportation services and
6 opportunities to adequately serve individuals with
7 disabilities;

8 (2) examine the impact of this Commonwealth's current
9 delivery system of public transportation and transportation
10 network companies on a Statewide level to individuals with
11 disabilities;

12 (3) identify barriers prohibiting or limiting the
13 coordination and accessibility of transportation services to
14 individuals with disabilities across county lines and
15 geographic regions;

16 (4) examine the availability of nonemergency Medicaid
17 transportation, geographic location challenges and any unique
18 concerns based on regional issues;

19 (5) identify ways to improve real-time transit
20 technology to inform passengers of delays or cancellations;

21 (6) examine the efficiency, uniformity and best
22 practices of the administration of public transportation
23 services at the Statewide and county levels;

24 (7) determine what existing funding sources, including
25 Federal, State or local government grants, could be leveraged
26 to improve transportation access for individuals with
27 disabilities;

28 (8) examine how current Federal and State laws and
29 regulations impact and limit public transportation supports,
30 services and programs for individuals with disabilities;

1 (9) examine the collaborations among the Department of
2 Transportation, the Department of Labor and Industry, the
3 Department of Human Services, the Department of Aging,
4 managed care organizations and providers;

5 (10) examine how transportation systems collaborate to
6 serve individuals with disabilities;

7 (11) examine policies and practices of transportation
8 authorities regarding public transportation services for
9 individuals with disabilities;

10 (12) examine all available public transportation
11 services and programs on a Statewide and countywide basis,
12 including barriers and obstacles in transportation for
13 individuals living in the home or receiving community-based
14 services for jobs, medical appointments and peer-to-peer
15 groups;

16 (13) examine the legal requirements for available
17 transportation options for individuals with disabilities and
18 whether counties and public and private organizations are in
19 compliance with the requirements of the Americans with
20 Disabilities Act of 1990 and other Federal and State laws
21 regarding the accessibility of transportation services; and

22 (14) examine transportation providers who have ceased or
23 limited operations since the beginning of the COVID-19
24 pandemic;

25 and be it further

26 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission, as part
27 of the study and to assist in developing findings and
28 recommendations, seek input from:

29 (1) individuals with disabilities and their relatives
30 regarding their experiences with public transportation,

1 including any barriers and obstacles they have faced and any
2 impact on accessing health care, seeking and maintaining
3 employment and community inclusion; and

4 (2) representatives and advocates from all aspects of
5 the transportation sector;

6 and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Joint State Government Commission issue a
8 report containing its findings and recommendations, including
9 any proposed statutory or regulatory changes, no later than 18
10 months after adoption of this resolution; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the report be submitted to:

12 (1) the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
13 Human Services Committee of the House of Representatives; and

14 (2) the chairperson and minority chairperson of the
15 Transportation Committee of the House of Representatives.