

General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission Room 108 Finance Building, 613 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120 717-787-4397

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One page Summary in response to Senate Resolution 209 of 2017 Pennsylvania's Turnpike Commission and Department of Transportation: A Potential Consolidation of Interstate Operations

Senate Resolution No. 209 (Sess. of 2017) called for an analysis of the potential consolidation of interstate highway operations by combining the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and the Commonwealth's Department of Transportation. It is more typical for states with lengthy, tolled interstate highways to operate them by an authority or commission, separate from their state department of transportation.

The report's analysis covered the topics specified in the resolution. Staff from the commission, the department and the Commonwealth's Office of Administration were consulted. The report evaluates potential cost savings, efficiencies and customer service improvements that could materialize resultant from a consolidation. Federal and state laws that could impact a consolidation are identified. Other states whose departments of transportation govern their tollways are reviewed. The commission's debt is detailed. The alignment of contracts covering labor, bonds and partners is considered. Finally, legislation to consolidate interstate operations is provided.

The full report is available on our website, <u>http://jsg.legis.state.pa.us/</u>