



General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
**Joint State Government Commission**  
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***Report Summary in Response to Senate Resolution 160***  
***Alternative Dispute Resolution in Pennsylvania***

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Senate Resolution 160 of 2005 directed the Joint State Government Commission to establish a bipartisan Task Force and an Advisory Committee to conduct a comprehensive review of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services in Pennsylvania, to identify best practices, and to develop a plan for facilitating the use of best practices throughout the Commonwealth. The Advisory Committee was appointed and subsequently organized into subcommittees to address specific topics listed in SR160. Each subcommittee was composed of those members whose experiences and expertise would be most beneficial.

The Advisory Committee researched, discussed, and deliberated at length in efforts to provide the General Assembly with recommendations that would serve the broad needs of residents of the Commonwealth. The expansive work of the Advisory Committee is encompassed in its foremost recommendation: that the Commonwealth create a statewide ADR Commission.

The ADR Commission will provide a clearinghouse, a communications hub, and training, serve as a liaison between entities that provide ADR services, and, importantly, stay abreast of trends, developments, and best practices in this continually evolving field.

The Advisory Committee proposes that the ADR Commission be established by amending Title 44 (Law and Justice) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes. The report includes proposed legislation to accomplish its creation.

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