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# Senate Education Committee

Senator Mike Folmer  
Chairman

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## BILL SUMMARY

Senate Resolution 345, Printer's No. 1961  
Prime Sponsor: Senator Hughes

### **SYNOPSIS:**

Senate Resolution 345 directs the Joint State Government Commission (Commission) to study student suicide in higher education.

### **BILL ANALYSIS:**

Senate Resolution 345 directs the Commission to conduct a study of student suicide in higher education. The Commission would establish a 25-member advisory committee that includes the Presidents of Penn State University, University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, and Lincoln University or their designees; the Chancellor of the State System of Higher Education or his designee; two representatives or their designees of Commonwealth private institutions of higher education; a representative of the Commonwealth community colleges; three enrolled students from Commonwealth higher education institutions; the Secretaries of Health and of Education or their designees; a representative from the Department of Public Welfare's Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; eleven public experts, with nine selected by the Commission, one by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and one by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

The study would include an analysis of student suicide in higher education, including graduate and professional schools. In order to identify best practices to address student suicide, the Commission and the advisory committee would review other state proposals and policies, existing policies at Commonwealth and other state higher education institutions as well as other resources. The Commission would also develop a process for public input.

The Commission must report its findings and recommendations to the Senate no later than December 31, 2014.

### **AMENDMENT A09617 TO SR345:**

Amendment A09617 would extend the due date of the report to no later than December 31, 2015.

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