SENATE RESOLUTION No. 82

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 10, 1997

By Senator BUBBA

1	A CENATE DEGOT METON directing the Consts State Coverment Committee
	A SENATE RESOLUTION directing the Senate State Government Committee
2	to investigate certain budgetary and financial practices of the Passaic
3	County government.
4 5	WHEREAS, Between 1985 and the present, the annual budget of Passaic
6	County has gone from \$109 million to \$240 million; and
7	WHEREAS, During that same period of time, the amount of money borrowed
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	by the county has ballooned from \$75 million to nearly \$400 million, an
9	increase which costs county taxpayers \$20 million in interest payments; and
10	WHEREAS, Nearly 100 county employees make more in annual salary than
11	Governor Whitman and many officials in the Passaic County government
12	earn more per year than their counterparts at the State level; and
13	WHEREAS, Some county administrators received more than a 10 percent pay
14	raise this year alone, while most of the county government workers
15	received substantially less or no raise at all, and in at least one case, a
16	management specialist at the welfare agency received a 35 percent raise,
17	bringing that person's salary from \$72,643 to \$97,921; and
18	WHEREAS, Clearly, it is time to question how Passaic County administrators'
19	salaries are determined, to ascertain whether or not there is a system of
20	guidelines in place that serve as criteria for when a person receives an
21	increase in salary and to ask why so many part-time employees have been
22	hired when it would seem that hiring a few full-time people would be more
23	cost effective; and
24	WHEREAS, The taxpayers of Passaic County and of the State deserve to know
25	why the salaries of certain county officials and administrators are increasing
26	at the same time as the budget and indebtedness of Passaic County are
27	also increasing; and
28	WHEREAS, It is therefore fitting and proper for the Senate State Government
29	Committee to investigate the budgetary and financial practices of the
30	Passaic County government; now, therefore,
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32	BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:

1	1. This House directs the Senate State Government Committee to
2	investigate the budgetary and financial practices of the Passaic County
3	government.
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5	2. The committee shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of
6	the services of the employees of any State, county or municipal department,
7	board, bureau, commission or agency as it may require and may be available
8	to it for this purpose, and to employ stenographic and clerical assistance and
9	incur traveling and other miscellaneous expenses as it may deem necessary in
10	order to perform its duties and as may be within the limits of funds
11	appropriated or otherwise made available to it for these purposes.
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13	3. For carrying out the purposes of this resolution, the committee shall
14	have all powers conferred under chapter 13 of Title 52 of the Revised
15	Statutes.
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17	4. The committee may meet and hold hearings at any place it designates
18	during the sessions or recesses of the Senate, or whenever such hearings
19	would not conflict with the meetings of the Senate, and shall report its findings
20	and recommendations to the Senate within one year of the adoption of this
21	resolution. The committee may accompany such recommendations with any
22	legislative bills which it may desire to recommend for adoption.
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25	STATEMENT
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27	This Senate Resolution directs the Senate State Government Committee to
28	investigate the budgetary and financial practices of the Passaic County
29	government.
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34	Directs the Senate State Government Committee to investigate budgetary and
35	financial practices of the Passaic County government.