Judiciary Committee
JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: SJ-48 / Bill Status / Public Hearing Testimony
Title: RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE DECISION OF THE CLAIMS COMMISSIONER TO DENY THE CLAIM AGAINST THE STATE OF MILAGROS POLLOCK HESS, ADMINISTRATRIX OF THE ESTATE OF JHECARI HESS.
Vote Date: 3/30/2026
Vote Action: Joint Favorable Substitute
PH Date: 3/16/2026
File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Judiciary Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

If the Claims Commissioner denies a claim, the claimant has the right to request that the General Assembly review the Commissioner's decision. The Milagros Pollock Hess, Administratrix of the Estate of Jhecari Hess claim was submitted to the Judiciary Committee from the Office of the Claims Commissioner with the annual submission of all claims requesting review by the General Assembly.

SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:

The original resolution was drafted to reflect confirmation of the Claims Commissioner's denial of the claim. The substitute language vacates the decision of the Claims Commissioner and gives the claimant permission to sue the state.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

None expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

Attorney Peter J. Sterling, Law Offices of Nair & Levin: He submitted testimony in opposition to the resolution. He provided significant details about his client's case and timeline. He requested that the Committee overrule the dismissal and grant Milagros Pollock Hess permission to sue.

Reported by: Kirstin Breiner **Date:** April 10, 2026