
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 225 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY STREET, OCTOBER 18, 2017

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, OCTOBER 18, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging Amazon to choose a location in Pennsylvania as the
2 future home of HQ2.

3 WHEREAS, On September 7, 2017, Amazon announced that it is
4 seeking to open a second company headquarters in North America
5 (Amazon HQ2) and will conduct a comprehensive search to decide
6 on the location; and

7 WHEREAS, The HQ2 campus will require up to 8 million square
8 feet of new space, may cost more than \$5 billion to build and
9 will employ up to 50,000 new full-time employees in the years
10 following commencement of operations; and

11 WHEREAS, Amazon issued a request for proposals for HQ2
12 highlighting specific requirements for an ideal site, including
13 a metropolitan area of at least 1 million people, greenfield or
14 infill space available to meet Amazon's space needs in multiple
15 phases, access to mass transit on site, close proximity to a
16 major international airport and a location able to attract and
17 retain strong technical talent; and

18 WHEREAS, The major cities of Pennsylvania have commercial and

1 noncommercial real estate that is as affordable, if not more so,
2 than other cities in the United States, comparable in size and
3 density and its cost of living is below the national average;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's major cities have growing millennial
6 populations with both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh ranking as
7 some of the fastest cities for millennial growth of any of the
8 nation's 10 largest cities; and

9 WHEREAS, With 164 four-year colleges out of 388 colleges,
10 community colleges and trade schools, Pennsylvania offers a
11 diverse pool of highly-skilled, experienced experts and young
12 professionals; and

13 WHEREAS, The University of Pennsylvania, Carnegie Mellon
14 University, Lehigh University, Villanova University, The
15 Pennsylvania State University, the University of Pittsburgh,
16 Drexel University, Temple University and Duquesne University are
17 all ranked nationally by U.S. News and World Report; and

18 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is an international gateway, perfectly
19 situated for business operations along the northeast corridor
20 and with close proximity to major cities such as Washington, DC,
21 and New York; and

22 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a booming, diverse and highly
23 engaged startup ecosystem; and

24 WHEREAS, The major cities of Pennsylvania have strong public
25 transit systems utilized by a wide variety of people; and

26 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has major international airports
27 located in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, the Lehigh
28 Valley and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton that connect its population to
29 all corners of the nation and world as well as a turnpike system
30 and convenient highway system to allow free and easy travel; and

1 WHEREAS, Amazon is interested in investing in an area that is
2 ripe for development, but also has existing buildings of at
3 least 500,000 square feet or a green site of approximately 100
4 acres; and

5 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a wide selection of parcels, both
6 greenfield and infill, that would meet the criteria established
7 by Amazon; and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's major cities have a wide array of
9 historical attractions, with some playing a pivotal role in the
10 formation of American democracy, that have received national
11 recognition for their diversity, affordability and quality of
12 life with must-see amenities, including the art scene,
13 restaurants, walkability, bike-friendly streets, outdoor
14 recreation and public green spaces; and

15 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's cities have a longstanding commitment
16 to issues of sustainability and the environment; and

17 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's major cities are known for their rich
18 history, vibrancy, affordability, job opportunities, diversity,
19 culture and nightlife; and

20 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's major cities would make a perfect
21 destination for Amazon's HQ2; and

22 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has everything that Amazon might need
23 to sustain and expand its growth and success; and

24 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate and the House of
25 Representatives, working alongside the administration of
26 Governor Tom Wolf, have shown their support and leadership in
27 encouraging business growth across this Commonwealth and would
28 work to support any large corporation, like Amazon, to locate
29 within Pennsylvania; and

30 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania stands ready to support and display all

1 that this Commonwealth has to offer to Amazon and looks forward
2 to the possibilities that a long and prosperous relationship
3 between Pennsylvania and Amazon can offer; therefore be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 urge Amazon to choose one of Pennsylvania's major cities as the
6 future home of HQ2 and stand ready to work with Amazon to ensure
7 success for both their business and the people of Pennsylvania;
8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to Jeff
10 Bezos, Founder, Chairman, President and CEO of Amazon as a
11 sincere representation of the sentiments of the Senate.