

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 133 Session of
2009

INTRODUCED BY FOLMER, WOZNIAK, RAFFERTY, PILEGGI, ARGALL,
ERICKSON AND FONTANA, JUNE 8, 2009

REFERRED TO COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY, JUNE 8, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Governor and the General Assembly to institute a
2 mobilization strategy to manage funds from the American
3 Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

4 WHEREAS, With the passage of the American Recovery and
5 Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5, 123 Stat. 115), many
6 states are coordinating large, cross-agency, statewide
7 strategies to maximize their American Recovery and Reinvestment
8 Act of 2009 funding opportunities. For instance, the highly
9 publicized California Broadband Initiative is seeking
10 \$1,000,000,000 of the \$7,200,000,000 American Recovery and
11 Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds; and

12 WHEREAS, Because the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
13 of 2009 will be hyper-competitive, the Commonwealth must put
14 forth a broad strategy that leverages and combines American
15 Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 opportunities and non-
16 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 opportunities;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, To best maximize this Commonwealth's share of

1 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds, the
2 strategy must be cross-industry, cross-agency, transparent and
3 nonpartisan as it leverages all opportunities with existing
4 Federal, State, local and corporate resources; and

5 WHEREAS, The strategy should follow the following principles:

6 (1) Providing broadband leadership at the State level,
7 rather than a local "free-for-all."

8 (2) Leveraging existing public and private
9 infrastructure.

10 (3) Developing competitive bid processes.

11 (4) Providing appropriate incentives for investment in
12 underserved and unserved regions.

13 (5) Linking with proven existing programs.

14 (6) Focusing on the "last mile" for connecting
15 residential broadband customers.

16 (7) Stimulating demand through anchor tenants: schools,
17 hospitals, other community anchors.

18 (8) Replicating the public-private partnership used
19 successfully in other states, such as California.

20 (9) Updating, with real-time data, broadband mapping and
21 insisting on data transparency.

22 (10) Establishing meaningful reports and accountability
23 for all projects.

24 (11) Investing in state-of-the-art infrastructure.

25 (12) Ensuring that all projects receiving stimulus money
26 have proven, identified sustainability plans after the
27 stimulus money is used.

28 (13) Addressing public safety improvements through
29 broadband deployment.

30 (14) Encouraging broadband education and adoption;

1 therefore be it

2 RESOLVED, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
3 urge the Governor to join with the General Assembly to institute
4 a mobilization strategy to manage funds from the American
5 Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Congressional delegation from Pennsylvania
7 be encouraged to seek to have Federal agencies block-grant all
8 nonformula funding to the states.