

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 873 Session of
2012

INTRODUCED BY JAMES, V. BROWN, COHEN, KIRKLAND, MYERS, THOMAS,
WATERS, WILLIAMS AND JOSEPHS, OCTOBER 1, 2012

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, OCTOBER 1, 2012

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to support the
2 development of smart gun technology and mandate gun
3 manufacturers to produce such firearms.

4 WHEREAS, A smart gun, also referred to as a personalized
5 firearm, is a firearm that uses biometric technology to restrict
6 unauthorized individuals from firing a gun; and

7 WHEREAS, There are unique methods used to personalize
8 firearms, including pressure sensors, fingerprinting and rings
9 or bracelets equipped with transmitters; and

10 WHEREAS, Smart guns utilizing an identification system of
11 gripping pressures or fingerprints become functional when the
12 grip or fingerprint of the user corresponds with the previously
13 programmed grip or fingerprint, which is encoded in a microchip
14 located within the firearm; and

15 WHEREAS, Firearms personalized with a radio transmitter
16 require the firearm user to wear a ring or bracelet containing a
17 programmed radio transmitter that activates the firearm to
18 become operational; and

1 WHEREAS, During 2009, there were more than 5.5 million
2 firearms manufactured in the United States, but none of the
3 firearms manufactured were branded as smart guns; and

4 WHEREAS, In December 2002, New Jersey was the first state to
5 enact legislation requiring handgun manufacturers to sell smart
6 guns within three years of the firearms becoming available for
7 retail sale; and

8 WHEREAS, Firearms acquired by criminals or unauthorized
9 individuals may have devastating consequences; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2010, the Federal Bureau of Investigation
11 reported that 56 law enforcement officers tragically lost their
12 lives at the hands of firearms in the United States, and seven
13 of them were killed with their own weapons; and

14 WHEREAS, The use of smart guns may prevent law enforcement
15 officers from being killed in the line of duty should a
16 perpetrator take possession of an officer's weapon; and

17 WHEREAS, Smart guns may also prevent the number of accidental
18 shootings resulting from children discovering a loaded firearm;
19 therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge the Congress
21 of the United States to support the development of smart gun
22 technology and mandate gun manufacturers to produce such
23 firearms; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
25 the President of the United States, to the presiding officers of
26 each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from
27 Pennsylvania.