
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 211 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, BLAKE, MASTRIANO, MARTIN, VOGEL,
BARTOLOTTA, FARNESE, IOVINO, DINNIMAN, ARGALL, BROWNE,
HUGHES, BREWSTER, MENSCH, PHILLIPS-HILL, AUMENT AND PITTMAN,
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating September 24, 2019, as the day to commemorate
2 "United States National Health IT Week - September 23, 2019,
3 to September 27, 2019" in Pennsylvania.

4 WHEREAS, Supporters and members of the three Pennsylvania
5 Chapters of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems
6 Society (HIMSS), Western PA HIMSS, Central PA HIMSS and Delaware
7 Valley HIMSS:

8 (1) encourage support for improved access to care for
9 rural Pennsylvanians through the expanded use of telehealth
10 and greater broadband availability;

11 (2) support funding for workforce development programs
12 to help increase the health care and information technology
13 workforce in Pennsylvania; and

14 (3) support the adoption of policies that promote
15 interoperability standards which enable cooperation by all
16 provider communities in Pennsylvania;

17 and

1 WHEREAS, Supporters and members of HIMSS leverage technology
2 to help provide:

3 (1) support for chronic diseases and behavior health
4 management;

5 (2) support of care with attention to the social
6 determinates of health;

7 (3) support for emergency response and disaster
8 preparedness; and

9 (4) support of public health;

10 and

11 WHEREAS, Ninety-two percent of eligible hospitals and 83% of
12 ambulatory health care providers in Pennsylvania have adopted
13 Certificated Electronic Health Records (Office of the National
14 Coordinator for Health IT); and

15 WHEREAS, Health care providers in this Commonwealth report an
16 improved ability to recruit physicians coming out of medical
17 school when advanced information technology is deployed at their
18 sites; and

19 WHEREAS, HIMSS is a global advisor and thought leader
20 supporting the transformation of health through information and
21 technology; and

22 WHEREAS, HIMSS offers a unique depth and breadth of expertise
23 in health innovation, public policy, workforce development,
24 research and analytics to advise global leaders, stakeholders
25 and influencers on best practices in health information and
26 technology; and

27 WHEREAS, HIMSS consists of more than 70,000 individuals and
28 600 corporate organizations as members; and

29 WHEREAS, HIMSS' vision is a world where everyone, everywhere,
30 has access to a health and wellness ecosystem that works, one

1 with the human at its heart; and

2 WHEREAS, HIMSS' mission is to reform the global health
3 ecosystem by leveraging the power of information and technology,
4 and by creating an informed and empowered community of
5 providers, innovators and individuals, there will be an ever-
6 improving state of health and wellness throughout the world; and

7 WHEREAS, Health information technology has led to improved
8 guideline adherence, better disease surveillance, reduction in
9 medication errors and adverse drug events; and

10 WHEREAS, Health information technology affords a reduction in
11 disparities in access to care and increasing patient-centered
12 care; and

13 WHEREAS, The Office of the National Coordinator for Health
14 Information Technology has outlined benefits of Health IT such
15 as improving access to health records, getting information
16 accurately into the hands of people who need it, improving the
17 coordination of care and reducing unnecessary tests and
18 procedures; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate September 24, 2019, as
20 the day to commemorate "United States National Health IT Week -
21 September 23, 2019, to September 27, 2019" in Pennsylvania; and
22 be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the importance of raising
24 awareness of health care information technology and the
25 advancement of health information exchange to help improve the
26 quality of care, save lives and reduce the cost of value-driven
27 health care for all Pennsylvanians; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate welcome members and supporters of
29 HIMSS to the State Capitol to promote better health care in this
30 Commonwealth through broader adoption of health care information

1 technology and the advancement of health information exchange.