

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 878 Session of
2010

INTRODUCED BY METCALFE, CALTAGIRONE, CHRISTIANA, CLYMER,
CREIGHTON, CUTLER, DENLINGER, GABLER, KILLION, PYLE, RAPP,
READSHAW, ROAE, ROHRER, SWANGER AND TURZAI, JULY 2, 2010

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, JULY 2, 2010

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Federal Communications Commission to refrain from
2 regulating the Internet.

3 WHEREAS, The Internet has flourished over the past 25 years
4 of its existence as a largely unregulated entity; and

5 WHEREAS, Operating as a free, open and working marketplace,
6 the Internet has become a vital backbone in the American
7 economy; and

8 WHEREAS, Broadband deployment and content creation has led to
9 enormous job creation, a previously unforeseen array of ever-
10 improving products and services and has transformed the way
11 individuals work, live and learn; and

12 WHEREAS, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has a
13 longstanding and bipartisan policy of refraining from Internet
14 regulation to promote private sector investment in the Internet;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law
17 104-104, 110 Stat. 56), passed by the Congress of the United

1 States, rulings by the FCC, and decisions of the United States
2 Supreme Court have all agreed that the Internet should remain
3 free from burdensome regulation; and

4 WHEREAS, On May 6, 2010, the chairman of the FCC announced
5 proceedings to reclassify the Internet from an "information" to
6 a "telecommunications" service in order to begin regulating
7 portions of the Internet ecosphere. Under the FCC's proposal,
8 the Internet would be subject to sections of Title II of the
9 Communications Act of 1934 (48 Stat. 1064, 47 U.S.C. § 151 et
10 seq.), which was written for monopoly-era telephone companies
11 that existed before the Internet was conceptualized; and

12 WHEREAS, Regulating Internet services will severely impede
13 investment in broadband Internet, thus jeopardizing improved
14 access, adoption and speed; and

15 WHEREAS, Regulation of the nation's Internet infrastructure
16 will also have a negative impact on job retention and creation
17 in both deployment and content; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
19 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the President and the Congress
20 of the United States and the Federal Communications Commission
21 to refrain from subjecting Internet services to regulations
22 under Title II of the Communications Act of 1934; and be it
23 further

24 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be distributed to
25 the President of the United States, the President of the United
26 States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
27 Representatives, members of the Pennsylvania congressional
28 delegation and commissioners of the Federal Communications
29 Commission.