

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 133 Session of
2009INTRODUCED BY FOLMER, WOZNIAK, RAFFERTY, PILEGGI, ARGALL,
ERICKSON, FONTANA, D. WHITE, WARD AND ALLOWAY, JUNE 8, 2009

AMENDED, JUNE 29, 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 URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNOR TO ←
5 INSTITUTE A BROADBAND MOBILIZATION STRATEGY TO MANAGE FUNDS
6 FROM THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009.

7 WHEREAS, ~~With the passage of the American Recovery and~~ ←
8 ~~Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5, 123 Stat. 115), many~~
9 ~~states are coordinating large, cross-agency, statewide~~
10 ~~strategies to maximize their American Recovery and Reinvestment~~
11 ~~Act of 2009 funding opportunities. For instance, the highly~~
12 ~~publicized California Broadband Initiative is seeking~~
13 ~~\$1,000,000,000 of the \$7,200,000,000 American Recovery and~~
14 ~~Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds; and~~

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

1 ~~WHEREAS, To best maximize this Commonwealth's share of~~
2 ~~American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds, the~~
3 ~~strategy must be cross industry, cross agency, transparent and~~
4 ~~nonpartisan as it leverages all opportunities with existing~~
5 ~~Federal, State, local and corporate resources; and~~

6 ~~WHEREAS, The strategy should follow the following principles:~~

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

9 ~~(2) Leveraging existing public and private~~
10 ~~infrastructure.~~

11 ~~(3) Developing competitive bid processes.~~

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

14 ~~(5) Linking with proven existing programs.~~

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

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

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

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

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

25 ~~(11) Investing in state of the art infrastructure.~~

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

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

~~(14) Encouraging broadband education and adoption;
therefore be it~~

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

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

WHEREAS, WITH THE PASSAGE OF THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND
REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (PUBLIC LAW 111-5, 123 STAT. 115), MANY
STATES ARE COORDINATING LARGE, CROSS-AGENCY, STATEWIDE
STRATEGIES TO ENHANCE THEIR AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT
ACT OF 2009 FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE BROADBAND
DEPLOYMENT STRATEGIES; AND

WHEREAS, BECAUSE THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT
OF 2009 WILL BE COMPETITIVE, THE COMMONWEALTH MUST PUT FORTH A
BROAD STRATEGY THAT LEVERAGES AND COMBINES AMERICAN RECOVERY AND
REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 OPPORTUNITIES AND ALL OTHER AVAILABLE
ECONOMIC RESOURCES TO PROMOTE SOUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR THE
DEPLOYMENT OF BROADBAND ACCESS; AND

WHEREAS, TO BEST MAXIMIZE THIS COMMONWEALTH'S SHARE OF
AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 FUNDS, THE
STRATEGY MUST BE TRANSPARENT AND NONPARTISAN AS IT LEVERAGES ALL
OPPORTUNITIES WITH EXISTING FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND CORPORATE
RESOURCES; AND

WHEREAS, THE STRATEGY SHOULD FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

(1) PROVIDE BROADBAND LEADERSHIP AT THE STATE LEVEL,
THROUGH A DECENTRALIZED SYSTEM THAT PROMOTES PENNSYLVANIA AS
A WHOLE, MUCH LIKE THE HIGHLY PUBLICIZED CALIFORNIA BROADBAND

1 INITIATIVE WHICH IS SEEKING \$1,000,000,000 OF THE
2 \$7,200,000,000 AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009
3 FUNDS.

4 (2) LEVERAGE EXISTING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INFRASTRUCTURE.

5 (3) DEVELOP COMPETITIVE BID PROCESSES.

6 (4) ADDRESS PUBLIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH BROADBAND
7 DEPLOYMENT.

8 (5) PROVIDE APPROPRIATE INCENTIVES FOR INVESTMENT IN
9 UNDERSERVED AND UNSERVED REGIONS.

10 (6) LINK WITH PROVEN EXISTING PROGRAMS AND STIMULATING
11 DEMAND THROUGH ANCHOR TENANTS, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER
12 COMMUNITY ANCHORS.

13 (7) FOCUS ON THE FINAL LEG OF DELIVERING SERVICES TO A
14 CUSTOMER ("LAST MILE") FOR CONNECTING RESIDENTIAL BROADBAND
15 CUSTOMERS.

16 (8) UPDATE BROADBAND MAPPING THAT IS DELIVERED
17 IMMEDIATELY AFTER COLLECTION ("REAL-TIME DATA") AND INSISTING
18 ON DATA TRANSPARENCY.

19 (9) ESTABLISH MEANINGFUL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR
20 ALL PROJECTS.

21 (10) INVEST IN STATE-OF-THE-ART INFRASTRUCTURE.

22 (11) ENSURE THAT ALL PROJECTS RECEIVING STIMULUS MONEY
23 HAVE PROVEN, IDENTIFIED SUSTAINABILITY PLANS AFTER THE
24 STIMULUS MONEY IS USED;

25 THEREFORE BE IT

26 RESOLVED, THAT THE SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA URGE THE PRESIDENT
27 OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNOR TO WORK IN CONJUNCTION
28 WITH THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO INSTITUTE A BROADBAND MOBILIZATION
29 STRATEGY TO MANAGE FUNDS FROM THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND
30 REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009; AND BE IT FURTHER

1 RESOLVED, THAT COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION BE TRANSMITTED TO
2 THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE
3 COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.