
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 571 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY DONATUCCI, W. KELLER, TAYLOR, WHITE, ROEBUCK,
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FITZGERALD, STURLA AND KORTZ, OCTOBER 18, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 18, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging Amazon to choose a location in Pennsylvania as the
2 future home of HQ2.

3 WHEREAS, On September 7, 2017, Amazon announced that it is
4 seeking to open a second company headquarters in North America
5 (Amazon HQ2) and will conduct a comprehensive search to decide
6 on the location; and

7 WHEREAS, The HQ2 campus will require up to 8 million square
8 feet of new space, may cost more than \$5 billion to build and
9 will employ up to 50,000 new full-time employees in the years
10 following commencement of operations; and

11 WHEREAS, Amazon issued a request for proposals for HQ2
12 highlighting specific requirements for an ideal site, including
13 a metropolitan area of at least 1 million people, greenfield or
14 infill space available to meet Amazon's space needs in multiple
15 phases, access to mass transit on site, close proximity to a

1 major international airport and a location able to attract and
2 retain strong technical talent; and

3 WHEREAS, The cities of Pennsylvania have commercial and
4 noncommercial real estate that is as affordable, if not more so,
5 than other cities in the United States, comparable in size and
6 density and its cost of living is below the national average;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's cities have growing millennial
9 populations with both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh ranking as
10 some of the fastest cities for millennial growth of any of the
11 nation's 10 largest cities; and

12 WHEREAS, With 164 four-year colleges out of 388 colleges,
13 community colleges and trade schools, Pennsylvania offers a
14 diverse pool of highly-skilled, experienced experts and young
15 professionals; and

16 WHEREAS, The University of Pennsylvania, Carnegie Mellon
17 University, Lehigh University, Villanova University, The
18 Pennsylvania State University, the University of Pittsburgh,
19 Drexel University, Temple University and Duquesne University are
20 all ranked nationally by U.S. News and World Report; and

21 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is an international gateway, perfectly
22 situated for business operations along the northeast corridor
23 and with close proximity to major cities such as Washington, DC,
24 and New York; and

25 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a booming, diverse and highly
26 engaged startup ecosystem; and

27 WHEREAS, The cities of Pennsylvania have strong public
28 transit systems utilized by a wide variety of people; and

29 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has major international airports
30 located in Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, the Lehigh

1 Valley and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton that connect its population to
2 all corners of the nation and world as well as a turnpike system
3 and convenient highway system to allow free and easy travel; and

4 WHEREAS, Amazon is interested in investing in an area that is
5 ripe for development, but also has existing buildings of at
6 least 500,000 square feet or a green site of approximately 100
7 acres; and

8 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a wide selection of parcels, both
9 greenfield and infill, that would meet the criteria established
10 by Amazon; and

11 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's cities have a wide array of
12 historical attractions, with some playing a pivotal role in the
13 formation of American democracy, that have received national
14 recognition for their diversity, affordability and quality of
15 life with must-see amenities, including the art scene,
16 restaurants, walkability, bike-friendly streets, outdoor
17 recreation and public green spaces; and

18 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's cities have a longstanding commitment
19 to issues of sustainability and the environment; and

20 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's cities are known for their rich
21 history, vibrancy, affordability, job opportunities, diversity,
22 culture and nightlife; and

23 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's cities would make a perfect
24 destination for Amazon's HQ2; and

25 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has everything that Amazon might need
26 to sustain and expand its growth and success; and

27 WHEREAS, The members of the Senate and the House of
28 Representatives, working alongside the administration of
29 Governor Tom Wolf, have shown their support and leadership in
30 encouraging business growth across this Commonwealth and would

1 work to support any large corporation, like Amazon, to locate
2 within Pennsylvania; and

3 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania stands ready to support and display all
4 that this Commonwealth has to offer to Amazon and looks forward
5 to the possibilities that a long and prosperous relationship
6 between Pennsylvania and Amazon can offer; therefore be it

7 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
8 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge Amazon to choose one of
9 Pennsylvania's cities as the future home of HQ2 and stand ready
10 to work with Amazon to ensure success for both their business
11 and the people of Pennsylvania; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be presented to Jeff
13 Bezos, Founder, Chairman, President and CEO of Amazon as a
14 sincere representation of the sentiments of the House of
15 Representatives.