

January 24, 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 13

DIGEST OF RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign to an appropriate study committee the topic of the potential dangers of cyber-hacking in state government, specifically the use of ransomware.

**Ford J.D., Donato, Koch, Leising,
Merritt, Perfect, Stoops**

January 14, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Commerce and Technology.
January 23, 2020, reported favorably — Do Pass.

SR 13—DR 3834/DI AM



January 24, 2020

Second Regular Session 121st General Assembly (2020)

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 13

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council
2 to assign to an appropriate study committee the topic of the
3 potential dangers of cyber-hacking in state government,
4 specifically the use of ransomware.

5 *Whereas, According to PEW Research Center, 64% of*
6 *Americans have experienced some type of cyber-hacking or*
7 *breach of data. However, despite the prevalence of*
8 *cyber-hacking, the majority of Americans, 69%, do not worry*
9 *about the security of their personal passwords;*

10 *Whereas, Employees, including state government officials,*
11 *are potential targets of cyber-hacking as demonstrated by the*
12 *cyber-theft of \$4.2 million from the Oklahoma Law*
13 *Enforcement Retirement System in 2019. A hacker perpetrated*
14 *this cyber-theft through the email account of an Oklahoma Law*
15 *Enforcement Retirement System employee;*

16 *Whereas, After a ransomware attack, officials in Riviera*
17 *Beach, Florida paid \$600,000 to regain control over their*
18 *government computers.*

19 *Whereas, In 2019, Isaac Schleifer, a councilman from*

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1 *Baltimore, Maryland, estimated the financial cost of*
2 *ransomware attacks in his city to be \$18.2 million;*

3 *Whereas, Ransomware is one example of software that can*
4 *be used to freeze an individual's access to his or her account*
5 *and steal sums of money. According to the Washington Post,*
6 *the United States faces 4,000 ransomware attacks daily. Many*
7 *of these attacks begin through an email phishing scheme. State*
8 *government employees are not immune to these attacks; and*

9 *Whereas, State government officials must be aware of this*
10 *potential cyber-security risk and take precautions against this*
11 *threat of ransomware: Therefore,*

12 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
13 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

14 SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to assign
15 to an appropriate study committee the topic of the potential
16 dangers of cyber-hacking in state government, specifically the
17 use of ransomware.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Commerce and Technology, to which was referred Senate Resolution No. 13, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said resolution DO PASS.

(Reference is to SR 13 as introduced.)

PERFECT, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0

