
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 288 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY V. BROWN, KORTZ, COHEN, HENNESSEY, FLYNN,
P. DALEY, PARKER, SCHLOSSBERG, BAKER, NEILSON, FREEMAN, ROSS,
YOUNGBLOOD, CALTAGIRONE, ROCK, MILLER, HESS, MAJOR, GINGRICH,
MILLARD, READSHAW, SABATINA, WATSON AND KINSEY, MAY 6, 2013

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MAY 6, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating Tuesday, May 8, 2013, as "Pennsylvania Health Care
2 Information Technology Awareness Day."

3 WHEREAS, Health care costs represent 17.6% of gross domestic
4 product nationally; and

5 WHEREAS, Seventy percent of health care transactions are
6 paper-based; and

7 WHEREAS, The health care industry invests only 5% of revenue
8 on information technology and management systems versus 10.5% of
9 other data-intensive industries such as banking; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States spends more than \$2.6 trillion on
11 health care a year, or 17.6% of the gross domestic product, yet
12 some of that spending is unnecessary and spent on clinical and
13 administrative waste, theft and excess costs; and

14 WHEREAS, Spending on health care has risen more than 40% in
15 the last decade; and

16 Whereas, In Pennsylvania, medical assistance (Medicaid)

1 spending in 2010 was \$18.7 billion; and

2 Whereas, A study by the Commonwealth Fund has demonstrated
3 that the use of automated clinical decision support systems can
4 result in the net reduction of \$538 per patient per hospital
5 stay; and

6 WHEREAS, The Institute of Medicine reports there are at least
7 1.5 million preventable adverse drug events per year, each
8 adding more than \$8,700 to the cost of a hospital stay; and

9 WHEREAS, The American Hospital Association reports that
10 Pennsylvania's hospitals and health systems are outpacing
11 hospitals nationally in their adoption and use of clinical
12 information technology and information management systems; and

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

17 WHEREAS, In 2012, Senate Bill 8 was signed into law, enacting
18 the Pennsylvania eHealth Information Technology Act and
19 establishing the Pennsylvania eHealth Partnership Authority and
20 a health information exchange; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate
22 Wednesday, May 8, 2013, as "Pennsylvania Health Care Information
23 Technology Awareness Day"; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
25 importance of raising awareness of health care information
26 technology and the vital role it will play in helping to save
27 lives and reduce the cost of health care for all Pennsylvanians;
28 and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives welcome friends,
30 supporters and members of the Healthcare Information and

1 Management Systems Society (HIMSS) on their visit to the State
2 Capitol to promote better health care in this Commonwealth
3 through broader adoption of advanced health care information
4 technology and management systems on that day.