
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 565 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY THOMAS, ELLIS, YOUNGBLOOD, D. COSTA, CHARLTON,
DIGIROLAMO, CALTAGIRONE, CONKLIN, NEILSON, RABB, HENNESSEY,
BAKER, SCHWEYER, WARD, SCHLOSSBERG, BULLOCK, DRISCOLL,
VAZQUEZ, PICKETT, READSHAW, HILL-EVANS, PASHINSKI, KINSEY,
MURT, HEFFLEY, WATSON AND LONGIETTI, OCTOBER 16, 2017

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
OCTOBER 16, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of October 2017 as "Cybersecurity
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, The use of the Internet in Pennsylvania to
4 communicate, conduct business or generate commerce that benefits
5 the overall Pennsylvania economy, is ubiquitous; and

6 WHEREAS, Many people use the Internet in Pennsylvania to
7 communicate with family and friends, manage finances and pay
8 bills, access educational opportunities, shop at home,
9 participate in online entertainment and games and stay informed
10 of news and current events; and

11 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania small businesses, which employ a
12 significant fraction of the private workforce, increasingly rely
13 on the Internet to manage their businesses, expand their
14 customer reach and enhance the management of their supply chain;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Nearly all public schools in Pennsylvania have

1 Internet access to enhance children's education, with a
2 significant percentage of instructional rooms connected to the
3 Internet to enhance children's education by providing access to
4 educational online content and encouraging self-initiative to
5 discover research resources; and

6 WHEREAS, The number of children who connect to the Internet
7 continues to rise, and teaching children of all ages to become
8 good cyber-citizens through safe, secure and ethical online
9 behaviors and practices is essential to protect their computer
10 systems and potentially their physical safety; and

11 WHEREAS, The growth and popularity of social networking
12 websites has attracted millions of Pennsylvania residents,
13 providing access to a range of valuable services, making it all
14 the more important to teach users of all ages how to avoid
15 potential threats like cyber bullies, predators and identity
16 thieves users may come across while using these services; and

17 WHEREAS, Cybersecurity is a critical part of Pennsylvania
18 state security and economic security; and

19 WHEREAS, Pennsylvania critical infrastructures and economy
20 rely on the secure and reliable operation of information
21 networks to support the Commonwealth, energy,
22 telecommunications, financial services, transportation, health
23 care and emergency response systems; and

24 WHEREAS, Internet users and information infrastructure owners
25 and operators face an increasing threat of malicious crime and
26 fraud attacks through viruses, worms, ransomware, Trojans, bots,
27 phishing and unwanted programs including spyware, adware,
28 hacking tools and password stealers, that are frequent and fast
29 in propagation, are costly to repair and may disable entire
30 systems; and

1 WHEREAS, Millions of records containing personally
2 identifiable information have been lost, stolen or breached,
3 threatening the security and financial well-being of residents
4 of this Commonwealth; and

5 WHEREAS, Consumers face significant financial and personal
6 privacy losses due to personally identifiable information being
7 more exposed to theft and fraud than ever before; and

8 WHEREAS, National and State organizations, policymakers,
9 government agencies, private sector companies, nonprofit
10 institutions, schools, academic organizations, consumers and the
11 media recognize the need to increase awareness of cybersecurity
12 and the need for enhanced cybersecurity in Pennsylvania; and

13 WHEREAS, Coordination between the numerous state agencies
14 involved in cybersecurity efforts is essential to securing the
15 cyber infrastructure of Pennsylvania; and

16 WHEREAS, Since 2003, the United States Department of Homeland
17 Security has recognized the month of October as "National
18 Cybersecurity Awareness Month," highlighting a collaborative
19 effort between government and industry to ensure every American
20 has the resources they need to stay safer and more secure
21 online; therefore be it

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives recognize the
23 month of October 2017 as "Cybersecurity Awareness Month" in
24 Pennsylvania; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives support the goals
26 and ideals of "National Cybersecurity Awareness Month" as
27 designated by the National Cybersecurity Alliance, the Multi-
28 State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, the United States
29 Department of Homeland Security and other organizations working
30 to improve cybersecurity in the United States and Pennsylvania;

1 and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives continue to work
3 with Federal and State agencies, businesses, educational
4 institutions and other organizations to enhance the state of
5 cybersecurity in Pennsylvania; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct
7 individuals, families, businesses, State agencies, educational
8 institutions and other organizations in Pennsylvania to consult
9 the Governor's Cybersecurity Guide, accessible at
10 <https://www.pa.gov/guides/cybersecurity/>; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives encourage
12 Pennsylvania residents to review and participate in the
13 cybersecurity awareness weekly themes designated by the United
14 States Department of Homeland Security as follows: October 2
15 through 6 Simple Steps to Online Safety, October 9 through 13
16 Cybersecurity in the Workplace is Everyone's Business, October
17 16 through 20 Today's Predictions for Tomorrow's Interests,
18 October 23 through 27 The Internet Wants YOU: Consider a Career
19 in Cybersecurity, October 30 and 31 Protecting Critical
20 Infrastructure from Cyber Threats.