
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 772 Session of
2018

INTRODUCED BY FRANKEL, NEILSON, A. DAVIS, HARKINS, SCHLOSSBERG,
PASHINSKI, SIMS, WARREN, YOUNGBLOOD, COMITTA, LONGIETTI,
BARBIN, SCHWEYER AND ROEBUCK, MARCH 26, 2018

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 26, 2018

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting that Congress pass the Secure Elections Act, S. 2261
2 (2017-2018).

3 WHEREAS, The Department of State of the Commonwealth of
4 Pennsylvania recently issued a directive requiring all new
5 voting machines to have a voter-verified paper ballot or paper
6 record of votes; and

7 WHEREAS, Many election security and computer science experts
8 agree that paperless electronic voting machines are prone to a
9 number of vulnerabilities that make vote tampering easier and
10 they further agree that having a paper record eliminates much of
11 the risk to our voting process; and

12 WHEREAS, Most counties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 use paperless electronic voting machines; and

14 WHEREAS, While the recent directive is to be applauded as an
15 important step toward more secure elections, new voting machines
16 are likely cost-prohibitive for many counties; and

17 WHEREAS, For Allegheny County alone, the cost could be as

1 much as \$26 million; and

2 WHEREAS, S. 2261, the Secure Elections Act, was introduced in
3 the 115th Congress of the United States on a bipartisan basis by
4 Senator James Lankford of Oklahoma; and

5 WHEREAS, S. 2261 would assist communities in the Commonwealth
6 of Pennsylvania and across our nation by providing grants to
7 states for expenses related to the acquisition of voting
8 equipment with voter-verified paper ballots; and

9 WHEREAS, S. 2261 would improve election procedures among
10 states that comply with the recommendations of a knowledgeable
11 advisory committee regarding postelection audits; and

12 WHEREAS, S. 2261 would provide an insurance pool for states
13 that need to conduct wide-ranging recounts for close elections;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, S. 2261 would bolster election security by requiring
16 voting equipment manufacturers to provide prompt notification of
17 possible cybersecurity incidents; and

18 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of
19 Pennsylvania recognizes that we must ensure the integrity of our
20 voting process given the alleged foreign interference in the
21 2016 elections and the heightened scrutiny surrounding
22 elections; and

23 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of
24 Pennsylvania acknowledges that government entities must take
25 swift action to increase the fairness and security of our next
26 elections and restore voter confidence in the election system;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of
29 Pennsylvania urges passage of S. 2261 ahead of the 2018 midterm
30 election and the 2020 presidential election; therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
2 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania request that the Congress of the
3 United States pass the Secure Elections Act, S. 2261 (2017-
4 2018); and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to the
6 President of the United States, to the presiding officers of
7 each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from
8 Pennsylvania.