
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 124 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY AUMENT, GREENLEAF, RAFFERTY, PILEGGI, BARTOLOTTA,
DINNIMAN, HUTCHINSON, FONTANA, ALLOWAY, VULAKOVICH, SCAVELLO,
YUDICHAK, SMITH AND COSTA, MAY 12, 2015

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 12, 2015

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating May 12, 2015, as "Pennsylvania Health Care
2 Information Technology Awareness Day."

3 WHEREAS, Health care costs represent 16.9% of the gross
4 domestic 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 its
8 revenue on information technology and management systems versus
9 10.5% of other data-intensive industries, such as banking; and

10 WHEREAS, The United States spends more than \$3 trillion on
11 health care per year, however, some of that spending is
12 unnecessary and represents clinical and administrative waste,
13 theft and excess costs; and

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

16 WHEREAS, In Pennsylvania, medical assistance (Medicaid)
17 spending in 2013 was \$20.3 billion; and

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

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

8 WHEREAS, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
9 reports that, between 2011 and 2014, 39,574 providers and
10 facilities received \$1.3 billion in Federal incentive payments
11 to implement electronic health records; and

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

16 WHEREAS, In 2012, the Pennsylvania eHealth Information
17 Technology Act was enacted and established the Pennsylvania
18 eHealth Partnership Authority and a health information exchange;
19 therefore be it

20 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate May 12, 2015, as
21 "Pennsylvania Health Care Information Technology Awareness Day";
22 and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the importance of raising
24 awareness of health care information technology and the vital
25 role it plays in helping to save lives and reduce the cost of
26 health care for all Pennsylvanians; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That the Senate welcome friends, supporters and
28 members of the Healthcare Information and Management Systems
29 Society on their visit to the State Capitol to promote better
30 health care in this Commonwealth through broader adoption of

- 1 advanced health care information technology and management
- 2 systems on that day.