





SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 2	A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the importance of all schools and libraries being equipped with high-capacity, high-speed
3	broadband connectivity.
4	Whereas, March 13, 2015, marks national Digital Learning
5	Day, bringing to the forefront the broadband imperative
6	currently facing schools and libraries in all communities across
7	the state of Indiana;
8	Whereas, Broadband, which has become the enabling
9	technology of the modern learning environment, is now as vital
10	to schools as brick and mortar infrastructure and utilities and
11	has the power to transform classrooms and transmit
12	information, helping to support students in acquiring 21st
13	century skills and making learning environments more
14	engaging and relevant;

Whereas, Broadband and other technology tools have the ability to increase education capacity as well through online academies, project-based and personalized learning, AP and dual credit, and STEM initiatives;

Whereas, Increased broadband utilization will also improve the efficiency of data management and information sharing by schools with parents and community stakeholders as teacher evaluations can be moved online to provide immediate feedback to help improve classroom instruction, and parents can be more readily informed about their students' academic progress;



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1	Whereas, Libraries benefit from high-speed broadband
2	connectivity as well, since they have notably become community
3	resource centers of digital information where people can learn
4	about healthcare and e-government services, search for
5	available jobs, and more;

Whereas, Despite this need, school and library budgets are constrained by inflation and other expenses;

Whereas, The state school and library connectivity grant only addresses 10 percent of the costs for the local portion of the requests for these services, and, therefore, affordability and funding remain a barrier to securing broadband services; and

Whereas, If Indiana's bold educational initiatives, including creating thriving students and a high-tech workforce, are to become successful and sustainable, the state must place higher priority in terms of supporting the investment by school corporations and libraries in robust, next-generation broadband: Therefore,

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

SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes the broadband imperative facing schools and libraries in all communities across the state of Indiana.

SECTION 2. That the copies of this resolution be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the Executive Directors of the Indiana State Library, the Indiana Library Federation, the Indiana Association of School Business Officials, the Indiana Association of Public School Superintendents, the Indiana School Boards Association, the Indiana Urban School Association, the Indiana Rural and Small Schools Association, the Indiana Association of School Principals, the Consortium on School Networking, the Indiana Chief Technology Officers Council, the Indiana Federation of Teachers, and the Indiana State Teachers Association.

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