

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 5

C8, L6

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By: **Senators Benson, Currie, Ferguson, Forehand, Garagiola, Jones–Rodwell, Montgomery, and Pinsky**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2011

Assigned to: Finance

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Senate Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Public–Private Partnerships to Promote Broadband Internet Access**

3 FOR the purpose of urging counties and municipalities to promote and facilitate the
4 creation of public–private partnerships to provide access to broadband Internet
5 and related information technology to all State residents, particularly those
6 living in urban centers or underserved communities.

7 WHEREAS, Dramatic changes in technology have fundamentally altered how
8 people work, learn, and communicate; and

9 WHEREAS, Access to broadband Internet and related information technology
10 can no longer be viewed as a luxury as it is necessary for full civic, economic, and
11 educational engagement; and

12 WHEREAS, Digital literacy among the State’s residents is key to economic
13 growth and job creation; and

14 WHEREAS, State and local governments play a key role in ensuring access to
15 broadband Internet and related information technology for all State residents; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the
18 General Assembly urges counties and municipalities in the State to promote and
19 facilitate the creation of public–private partnerships to provide access to broadband
20 Internet and related information technology to all Maryland residents, particularly
21 those living in urban centers or underserved communities; and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of
23 Legislative Services to the Honorable Martin O’Malley, Governor of Maryland; the
24 Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; the
25 Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; the Maryland
26 Association of Counties; and the Maryland Municipal League.

