

NANOG STATEMENT ON PASSAGE OF N.C. HOUSE BILL 2

As an education-focused association, NANOG's core mission is to provide educational services to its members and the North American network operator community. Recently, the State of North Carolina enacted legislation (House Bill 2) that alters non-discrimination statutes on a statewide basis.

In light of this new legislation, NANOG, in consultation with its legal counsel, examined the viability and appropriateness of continuing with its scheduled meeting in Raleigh-Durham on April 12th, 2016.

NANOG has and will continue to respect the rights and differences of all of its members and attendees. Further, NANOG has used this opportunity to verify and restate its commitment to non-discrimination. We have made important changes to our Attendee Charter for this and future NANOG meetings to prohibit the following: Engaging in any activity that discriminates on the basis of or is offensive because of content related to gender, gender identity, gender expression, sex, race, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, age, socioeconomic status or family status.

As such, the NANOG Board of Directors feels comfortable proceeding with the meeting as scheduled, believing that canceling the meeting with such short notice would cause unreasonable harm to NANOG's constituency and the local population of network operators in North Carolina.

In the future, as NANOG continues to plan upcoming meetings and events, it will strive to do so in locations that feature statutory protections consistent with NANOG's policy of non-discrimination. Until such time as North Carolina changes its legal framework, it is unlikely that NANOG will return.