

SENATE BILL NO. 687

January 11, 2024, Introduced by Senators MCCANN, GEISS, SHINK, CHANG and CAVANAGH and referred to the Committee on Energy and Environment.

A bill to create the Michigan high-speed internet office; to prescribe the powers and duties of the Michigan high-speed internet office; to allow the provision of grants and other financial and technical assistance related to broadband and digital infrastructure; and to provide the powers and duties of certain state officers and entities.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act may be cited as the "Michigan high-speed
2 internet office act".

3 Sec. 2. As used in this act:

1 (a) "Broadband internet access service" means a mass-market
2 retail service by wire or radio that provides the capability to
3 transmit data to, and receive data from, all or substantially all
4 internet endpoints, including, but not limited to, any capability
5 that is incidental to and that enables the operation of the
6 communications service. Broadband internet access service does not
7 include dial-up internet access service.

8 (b) "Broadband internet access service provider" means an
9 entity that provides broadband internet access service in this
10 state.

11 (c) "Department" means the department of labor and economic
12 opportunity.

13 (d) "Modern broadband and digital infrastructure" means the
14 technology and associated equipment used to provide broadband
15 internet access service with speeds of at least 100 megabits per
16 second downstream and 20 megabits per second upstream, scalable to
17 100 megabits per second speeds and latency sufficient to support
18 real-time, interactive applications and that meet the educational,
19 economic, and consumer needs of residents of this state.

20 (e) "Office" means the Michigan high-speed internet office
21 created in section 3.

22 Sec. 3. (1) The Michigan high-speed internet office is created
23 within the department.

24 (2) The director of the department shall appoint a director of
25 the office. The individual appointed as the director of the office
26 must be qualified by training and experience to perform the duties
27 and exercise the powers of the office and the director of the
28 office.

29 Sec. 5. The director of the office shall establish procedures

1 for the office for budgeting, expending money, and employing
2 personnel according to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431,
3 MCL 18.1101 to 18.1594.

4 Sec. 7. The office may, upon appropriation, award grants or
5 provide other financial and technical assistance to carry out the
6 purposes of this act.

7 Sec. 9. The office shall do all of the following:

8 (a) Implement modern broadband and digital infrastructure
9 duties assigned to the office and coordinate with other state
10 departments responsible for modern broadband and digital
11 infrastructure matters.

12 (b) Facilitate collaboration among public and private entities
13 to encourage partnerships, regional coordination, and streamlined
14 policies to increase modern broadband and digital infrastructure.

15 (c) Identify best practices and external resources to support
16 modern broadband and digital infrastructure in this state.

17 (d) Provide capacity building and digital literacy resources
18 to the public and entities seeking to expand broadband internet
19 access service and adoption.

20 (e) Promote and implement policies that utilize modern
21 broadband and digital infrastructure to do any of the following:

22 (i) Revitalize neighborhoods and communities.

23 (ii) Support economic development opportunities.

24 (iii) Increase hiring and retention of skilled workers that
25 support modern broadband and digital infrastructure in this state.

26 (iv) Integrate the deployment of modern broadband and digital
27 infrastructure through existing infrastructure and economic
28 development programs.

29 (f) Collect and analyze data to accurately determine the

1 availability of broadband internet access service, including the
2 development of methods that accurately identify parcel level
3 wholesale and retail broadband infrastructure availability and
4 adoption throughout this state.

5 (g) Issue reports on the status of broadband internet access
6 service market competition in different regions throughout this
7 state that distinguish between the type and quality of broadband
8 internet access service provided and evaluate and provide
9 recommendations on the wholesale and retail cost of broadband
10 internet access service.

11 (h) Serve as a point of contact between the public and
12 broadband internet access service providers to improve access,
13 adoption, and transparency of broadband internet access service.