

# SENATE BILL NO. 513

June 08, 2021, Introduced by Senators BAYER, POLEHANKI, GEISS, SANTANA and MCMORROW and referred to the Committee on Energy and Technology.

A bill to create the office of broadband and digital infrastructure; to prescribe the powers and duties of the office of broadband and digital infrastructure; 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 shall be known and may be cited as the  
2 "broadband and digital infrastructure office act".

3           Sec. 2. As used in this act:

1 (a) "Broadband service" means a service, not including a  
2 satellite service, capable of delivering high-speed internet access  
3 that meets all of the following:

4 (i) Provides symmetrical upload and download speeds.

5 (ii) Provides low latency.

6 (iii) Provides reliable internet bandwidth that is capable of  
7 meeting the education, economic, and consumer needs of residents of  
8 this state.

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

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

13 (d) "Director" means the director of the office of broadband  
14 and digital infrastructure.

15 (e) "Modern broadband and digital infrastructure" means the  
16 technology and associated equipment used to provide broadband  
17 service.

18 (f) "Office" means the office of broadband and digital  
19 infrastructure created in section 3.

20 Sec. 3. (1) The office of broadband and digital infrastructure  
21 is created within the department.

22 (2) The governor shall appoint a director of the office of  
23 broadband and digital infrastructure. The individual appointed as  
24 the director must be qualified by training and experience to  
25 perform the duties and exercise the powers of the office and the  
26 director.

27 Sec. 5. The director shall establish procedures for the office  
28 for budgeting, expending money, and employing personnel according  
29 to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to

1 18.1594.

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

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

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

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

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

15 (d) Provide capacity building and digital literacy resources  
16 to the public and entities seeking to expand broadband service and  
17 adoption.

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

20 (i) Revitalize neighborhoods and communities.

21 (ii) Support economic development opportunities.

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

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

27 (f) Collect and analyze data to accurately determine the  
28 availability of broadband service, including the development of  
29 methods that accurately identify parcel level wholesale and retail

1 broadband infrastructure availability and adoption throughout this  
2 state.

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

8 (h) Serve as a point of contact between the public and  
9 broadband service providers to improve broadband service access,  
10 adoption, and transparency.