

House \_\_\_\_\_ Amendment NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Offered By \_\_\_\_\_

1 AMEND House Committee Substitute for Senate Substitute for Senate Bill No. 25, Page 1, Section  
2 A, Line 2, by inserting after all of said section and line the following:

3  
4 "1.512. 1. As used in this section, the following terms mean:

5 (1) "Broadband" or "broadband service", any service providing advanced  
6 telecommunications capability with the same downstream data rate and upstream data rate as  
7 required to satisfy the definition of "broadband" by the Federal Communications Commission and  
8 that:

9 (a) Does not require the end user to dial up a connection;

10 (b) Has the capacity to always be on;

11 (c) Has transmission speeds that are based on regular available bandwidth rates, not  
12 sporadic or burstable rates, with latency suitable for real-time applications and services such as  
13 voice over internet protocol and video conferencing; and

14 (d) Has a monthly usage capacity reasonably comparable to that of residential terrestrial  
15 fixed broadband offerings in urban areas.

16  
17 As the Federal Communications Commission updates the downstream data rate and the upstream  
18 data rate, the council shall publish the revised data rates within sixty days of the federal update;

19 (2) "Council", the broadband development council;

20 (3) "Digital navigation service", a person or entity that helps or teaches people to safely and  
21 effectively use the internet;

22 (4) "Downstream data rate", the transmission speed from the service provider source to the  
23 end user;

24 (5) "Internet protocol address" or "IP address", a unique string of numbers separated by  
25 periods that identifies each computer using the internet protocol to communicate over a network;

26 (6) "Unserved area", a community that has no access to broadband service;

27 (7) "Upstream data rate", the transmission speed from the end user to the service provider  
28 source.

Action Taken \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1           2. There is hereby established the "Broadband Development Council". The broadband  
2 development office of the department of economic development shall provide administrative,  
3 personnel, and technical support to the council as necessary.

4           3. The council shall consist of:

5           (1) The director of the department of economic development or his or her designee;

6           (2) The chief information officer within the office of administration or his or her designee;

7           (3) The commissioner of higher education or his or her designee;

8           (4) The commissioner of education or his or her designee;

9           (5) The director of the state broadband office or his or her designee;

10          (6) The following members of the public, appointed by the speaker of the house of  
11 representatives:

12          (a) Two members representing users of large amounts of broadband service in this state; and

13          (b) One member from each congressional district representing broadband service users of  
14 this state.

15  
16 Members appointed under this subdivision shall serve no more than two three-year terms. However,  
17 the terms shall be staggered with one-third of the inaugural members, chosen by lot, serving one  
18 additional year and another one-third of the inaugural members, chosen by lot, to serve an additional  
19 two years. Members appointed under this subdivision shall be deemed part-time public officials and  
20 may have other employment;

21          (7) Two senators appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate and one senator  
22 appointed by the minority floor leader of the senate; and

23          (8) Two members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of  
24 representatives and one member of the house of representatives appointed by the minority floor  
25 leader of the house of representatives.

26          4. (1) The council shall select a chair and vice chair from among its members. The director  
27 of the department of economic development shall chair the first meeting of the council until a chair  
28 is selected. Terms of the chair and vice chair shall be two years, and no member may serve more  
29 than two consecutive terms in either position. The council shall appoint a secretary-treasurer, who  
30 need not be a member of the council and who, among other tasks or functions designated by the  
31 council, shall keep records of its proceedings.

32          (2) Eleven voting members of the council shall constitute a quorum, and a simple majority  
33 of the members present shall be sufficient for any action taken by vote of the council.

34          (3) The council may appoint committees or subcommittees for the purposes of  
35 investigations and recommendations. Members of these committees or subcommittees need not be  
36 members of the council.

37          (4) No member of the council who serves by virtue of his or her office shall receive  
38 compensation or reimbursement of expenses for serving as a member. Members appointed under

1 subdivision (6) of subsection 3 of this section and the members of any committee or subcommittee  
2 are entitled to be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses.

3 (5) No member shall be subject to antitrust or unfair competition liability based on  
4 membership or participation in the council. The council shall be deemed to provide an essential  
5 governmental function and shall have state-action immunity.

6 5. (1) The council shall:

7 (a) Explore any and all ways to expand access to broadband services including, but not  
8 limited to, middle mile, last mile, and wireless applications;

9 (b) Gather data regarding the various speeds provided to consumers and compare that data  
10 to the speeds the internet service provider advertises;

11 (c) Explore the potential for increased use of broadband service for the purposes of  
12 education, career readiness, workforce preparation, and alternative career training;

13 (d) Explore ways to encourage state and municipal agencies to expand the development and  
14 use of broadband services to better serve the public through the use of audio and video streaming,  
15 voice over internet protocol, teleconferencing, and wireless networking;

16 (e) Assist in expanding electronic instruction and distance education services, including  
17 digital navigation services;

18 (f) Advise and make recommendations to the general assembly regarding:

19 a. Strategies to make broadband service available to unserved and underserved areas;

20 b. Statutory changes that may enhance and expand broadband in the state; and

21 c. Strategies to increase adoption of the emergency broadband benefit program or any  
22 successor program; and

23 (g) Submit a report to the general assembly and governor on or before January first each  
24 year. The report shall include a summary of the actions taken by the council during the previous  
25 year.

26 (2) In addition to other powers, the council is hereby granted the powers necessary and  
27 appropriate to carry out and effectuate the duties described under subdivision (1) of this subsection.  
28 The council shall have the power to:

29 (a) Promote awareness of public facilities that have community broadband access that can  
30 be used for distance education and workforce development;

31 (b) Advise on the deployment of online government portals so that all public bodies and  
32 political subdivisions have websites, one-stop government access, and the ability to stream audio  
33 and video of public meetings; and

34 (c) Perform any other activities to further its purpose.

35 (3) The council may:

36 (a) Retain outside expert consultants to assist in the purposes of this section. Any retention  
37 and contracting of expert consultants shall be transparent, and the council shall make publicly  
38 available any contracts, retention agreements, payments, and invoicing for services;

1           **(b) Take action to increase awareness of issues concerning broadband services and to**  
 2 **educate and inform the public; and**

3           **(c) Seek nonstate funding and grants, which the council may use itself or disburse to fund**  
 4 **projects and initiatives.**

5           **6. The council shall establish a university-based research organization, or contract with an**  
 6 **organization, that shall annually survey each county and school district in the state to assess**  
 7 **available internet speed and identify areas with challenges to high-speed internet access.**

8           **7. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 610, information provided to the council,**  
 9 **its consultants, or its other agents that is identified as confidential information when submitted shall**  
 10 **be exempt from disclosure and shall be secured and safeguarded. Such information may include,**  
 11 **but not be limited to, physical plant locations, subscriber levels, market penetration data, and any**  
 12 **other proprietary business information or any other information that constitutes a trade secret.**

13           **(2) Any person who makes any unauthorized disclosure of such confidential information or**  
 14 **data shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.**

15           **8. The council may promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the administration of**  
 16 **this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created**  
 17 **under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is**  
 18 **subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and**  
 19 **chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to**  
 20 **chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently**  
 21 **held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after**  
 22 **August 28, 2023, shall be invalid and void.";** and

23  
 24 Further amend said bill and section, Page 6, Line 175, by inserting after all of said section and line  
 25 the following:

26  
 27           **"227.675. 1. The provisions of this section shall be known and may be cited as the**  
 28 **"Department of Transportation Fiber Network Expansion Act".**

29           **2. For purposes of this section, the following terms mean:**

30           **(1) "Commission", the Missouri highways and transportation commission;**

31           **(2) "Department", the Missouri department of transportation.**

32           **3. The commission may enter into public-private partnerships with private broadband**  
 33 **internet service providers to expand and further develop the department's fiber network.**

34           **4. The commission shall prioritize expansion and development under this section in**  
 35 **unserved areas and underserved areas, as such terms are defined in section 620.2450.**

36           **5. The commission shall use a competitive procurement process to form public-private**  
 37 **partnerships under this section. The commission shall publish a public notice of the commission's**  
 38 **request for proposals, including any deadline for submission of such proposals, which shall be**  
 39 **published once a week for two consecutive weeks in:**

- (1) A newspaper of general circulation in the city where the proposed project is located;
- (2) At least one technology industry trade publication that is nationally distributed; and
- (3) Such other publications or manner as the commission may determine.

6. As part of a contract award under this section, the private partnering entity may use the excess fiber capacity to provide internet services as long as the services provided meet the state minimum standard for broadband set by the department of economic development.

7. The commission may promulgate any rules to implement the provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2023, shall be invalid and void."; and

Further amend said bill by amending the title, enacting clause, and intersectional references accordingly.