

SB 5711 - S AMD TO S AMD (S-1947.3/17) **74**
By Senator Van De Wege

1 On page 46, after line 11 of the amendment, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 307. RCW 43.330.418 and 2011 1st sp.s. c 43 s 609 are each
3 amended to read as follows:

4 (1)(a) ~~The ((governor may take all appropriate steps to seek~~
5 ~~federal funding in order to maximize investment in broadband~~
6 ~~deployment and adoption in the state of Washington. Such steps may~~
7 ~~include the designation of a broadband deployment and adoption~~
8 ~~coordinator; review and prioritization of grant applications by~~
9 ~~public and private entities as directed by the national~~
10 ~~telecommunications and information administration, the rural utility~~
11 ~~services, and the federal communications commission; disbursement of~~
12 ~~block grant funding; and direction to state agencies to provide~~
13 ~~staffing as necessary to carry out this section. The authority for~~
14 ~~overseeing broadband adoption and deployment efforts on behalf of the~~
15 ~~state is vested in the department)) office of broadband deployment is~~
16 ~~created within the department. The office is responsible for matters~~
17 ~~regarding the adoption and deployment of broadband throughout the~~
18 ~~state, including coordinating activities required under subsection~~
19 ~~(2) of this section.~~

20 (b) The office must focus its resources on deployment of
21 broadband in unserved and underserved areas of the state.

22 (c) By December 1, 2020, the department must submit a report to
23 the appropriate committees of the legislature. The report must be
24 coordinated with the requirements of RCW 43.105.369(7) and must
25 include at a minimum a progress report on the deployment of broadband
26 in underserved and unserved areas of the state, and activities
27 conducted under RCW 43.330.412 and 43.330.415.

28 (2) The department may apply for federal funds and other grants
29 or donations, ((may)) must deposit such funds in the Washington
30 community technology opportunity account created in RCW 43.330.415,
31 may oversee implementation of federally funded or mandated broadband
32 programs for the state, and may adopt rules as necessary to

1 administer the programs. These programs may include but are not
2 limited to the following:

3 (a) Engaging in periodic statewide surveys of residents,
4 businesses, and nonprofit organizations concerning their use and
5 adoption of high-speed internet, computer, and related information
6 technology for the purpose of identifying barriers to adoption;

7 (b) Working with communities to identify barriers to the adoption
8 of broadband service and related information technology services by
9 individuals, nonprofit organizations, and businesses;

10 (c) Identifying broadband demand opportunities in communities by
11 working cooperatively with local organizations, government agencies,
12 and businesses;

13 (d) Creating, implementing, and administering programs to improve
14 computer ownership, technology literacy, digital media literacy, and
15 high-speed internet access for populations not currently served or
16 underserved in the state. This may include programs to provide low-
17 income families, community-based nonprofit organizations, nonprofit
18 entities, and public entities that work in partnership with nonprofit
19 entities to provide increased access to computers and broadband, with
20 reduced cost internet access;

21 (e) Administering the community technology opportunity program
22 under RCW 43.330.412 and 43.330.415;

23 (f) Creating additional programs to spur the development of high-
24 speed internet resources underserved and unserved areas of in the
25 state;

26 (g) Establishing technology literacy and digital inclusion
27 programs and establishing low-cost hardware, software, and internet
28 purchasing programs that may include allowing participation by
29 community technology programs in state purchasing programs; and

30 (h) Developing technology loan programs targeting small
31 businesses or businesses located in unserved and underserved areas.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 308.** A new section is added to chapter 80.36
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 (1)(a) The commission, in consultation with the department of
35 commerce, must prepare a report that reviews the progress in adopting
36 deploying broadband throughout the state and makes recommendations
37 directed to both public entities and telecommunications service
38 providers for accelerating this progress.

1 (b) By December 1, 2018, the commission must submit a report to
2 the appropriate committees of the legislature. The report must be
3 coordinated with the requirements of RCW 43.105.369(7) and
4 43.330.409. The report must include, at a minimum:

5 (i) Progress on the deployment of broadband in underserved and
6 unserved areas of the state;

7 (ii) The effectiveness of using federal and state funds for
8 deployment of broadband services to rural, underserved, and unserved
9 areas of the state;

10 (iii) A gap analysis of deployment of broadband using federal and
11 state subsidies received as of the effective date of this section;
12 and

13 (iv) Additional incentives and measures to encourage
14 telecommunications service providers to invest in infrastructure to
15 serve rural, underserved, and unserved areas of the state.

16 (2) The commission must review the use of federal and state
17 funding for broadband to determine:

18 (a) Appropriateness of the use of funds for private and public
19 entities;

20 (b) Cost structure of regulations; and

21 (c) Whether and to what extent the universal service fund, as
22 described in RCW 80.36.650 and 80.36.660, should be used to support
23 the deployment of broadband in underserved, unserved, and rural areas
24 of the state."

25 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any
26 internal references accordingly.

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27 On page 47, line 2 of the title amendment, after "80.36.680,"
28 strike "and 80.36.690" and insert "80.36.690, and 43.330.418" and on
29 line 3, after "35.99 RCW;" strike "adding a new section" and insert
30 "adding new sections"

EFFECT: Establishes an office of broadband deployment within the
department of commerce. The broadband office is required to focus on
broadband deployment in underserved and unserved areas of the state.
The UTC is required to review the progress of broadband deployment in
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rural, underserved, and unserved areas of the state and provide a report that includes a gap analysis of the use of federal and state funds for broadband deployment as well as broadband deployment in the state, and the use of the universal service fund for broadband deployment.

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