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**SENATE BILL 5715**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2022 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Wellman, Sheldon, Randall, and C. Wilson

Prefiled 01/06/22. Read first time 01/10/22. Referred to Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology.

1 AN ACT Relating to modifying the definition of broadband or  
2 broadband service; amending RCW 43.330.530; and creating a new  
3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes the statewide  
6 broadband office's objective of scalability while appreciating that a  
7 digital economy will continue to drive higher and higher speeds.  
8 Therefore, the legislature intends to move towards adequate  
9 connectivity in terms of the needs of economic development,  
10 education, and telehealth services.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.330.530 and 2019 c 365 s 2 are each amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 The definitions in this section apply throughout this section and  
14 RCW 43.330.532 through 43.330.538 unless the context clearly requires  
15 otherwise.

16 (1) "Board" means the public works board established in RCW  
17 43.155.030.

18 (2) "Broadband" or "broadband service" means any service  
19 providing advanced telecommunications capability and internet access  
20 with transmission speeds that, at a minimum, provide ((twenty-five))

1 100 megabits per second download and ((three)) 20 megabits per second  
2 upload.

3 (3) "Broadband infrastructure" means networks of deployed  
4 telecommunications equipment and technologies necessary to provide  
5 high-speed internet access and other advanced telecommunications  
6 services to end users.

7 (4) "Department" means the department of commerce.

8 (5) "Last mile infrastructure" means broadband infrastructure  
9 that serves as the final connection from a broadband service  
10 provider's network to the end-use customer's on-premises  
11 telecommunications equipment.

12 (6) "Local government" includes cities, towns, counties,  
13 municipal corporations, public port districts, public utility  
14 districts, quasi-municipal corporations, special purpose districts,  
15 and multiparty entities comprised of public entity members.

16 (7) "Middle mile infrastructure" means broadband infrastructure  
17 that links a broadband service provider's core network infrastructure  
18 to last mile infrastructure.

19 (8) "Office" means the governor's statewide broadband office  
20 established in RCW 43.330.532.

21 (9) "Tribe" means any federally recognized Indian tribe whose  
22 traditional lands and territories included parts of Washington.

23 (10) "Unserved areas" means areas of Washington in which  
24 households and businesses lack access to broadband service, as  
25 defined by the office(~~(, except that the state's definition for~~  
26 ~~broadband service may not be actual speeds less than twenty-five~~  
27 ~~megabits per second download and three megabits per second upload)~~).

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