

MultiState Associates Inc.
Broadband Business Opportunities and Policy Legislative Report
December 4, 2007

Broadband over Power Lines authorized	Arizona, Arkansas, Indiana
Broadband task force created	California (2006), Arkansas, Hawaii, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee
Municipal owned or franchised broadband authorized	Connecticut, Illinois , Kentucky, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania
Statewide networks to be created or local/regional networks expanded	Arkansas, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont
Loans, grants, or bonds for broadband	Arkansas, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, New York, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia
Rail broadband	Illinois
Study broadband deployment	Arkansas, California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Tennessee, Washington
Tax credits for broadband	New York , North Dakota , Virginia
Mandate the development of a state, regional or city wireless network	Arkansas, Albany, 3 counties in Illinois, Vermont interstate rest stops , Indiana rural health broadband; NY; Vermont
Universal Service Fee to Wireless	South Carolina
Broadband security	Massachusetts, New York

Bold = Enacted, Strike Through = Defeated

Legislatures still in session: CA, IL, MA, MI, NJ, NY, OH, PA , & WI

MultiState Associates State Tracking and Research Service (STaR)

Bills, Rules and Regulations, Resolutions and Executive Orders, Budgets, Amendments and Study Commissions. How can you wade through thousands of pages hoping to find those provisions which may impact your organization and still have time to influence the outcome or prepare for the business opportunities that will be generated?

MultiState Associates has created this synopsis of bills and laws on the following pages. For the full report and a suite of government affairs services, consider subscribing to our State Tracking and Research (STaR) Service.

MultiState's research analysts cull the thousands of bills and regulations introduced around the country, reading summaries and full text, to capture your priority issues and find business opportunities. We provide concise, targeted reports of newly culled bills and regulations, and follow activity of all bills and regulations previously reported to you. And, when you need the inside political story, MultiState utilizes its lobbyist and legislative networks to provide political assessments of priority bills or regulations. Additionally, all relevant bills and regulations are housed in a customized, web-accessible database, and are available 24/7. For more information, call 916 · 788-0800 or email mgorsen@multistate.com

2007 State Wireless Legislation Summary

OVERVIEW

“Lots of Great Ideas, a Few New Laws; Incubators of Innovation in KY, ME and VT; Not Much Money but Wireless Broadband is Hot!” Mitch Gorsen, MultiState Associates August 7, 2007

During 2008, at least ninety-three bills affecting wireless networks were introduced and forty-two were enacted. This report summarizes those bills.

State legislation enacted during 2007 or presently pending will not immediately or meaningfully improve the wireless broadband industry or deployments at the state and local government level during the next few years. While the legislative intentions were noble, few were enacted and fewer offered more than a tiny amount of money. Kentucky, Maine, and Vermont enacted meaningful improvements summarized in this report. Most of the bills should be reintroduced again in 2008.

Thus far in 2007, there was new and financially significant state, regional or national legislative authorizations to build wireless infrastructure.

Wireless Networks is a Hot Topic!

Elected officials are being educated about wireless broadband. Meeting agendas of hundreds of city councils, county legislatures, National Conference of State Legislators, National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, mayors, governors, economic development authorities, etc... include presentations about wireless networks.

About MultiState Associates

MultiState Associates identifies *pre-RFP* wireless business opportunities and reports the progression from idea to implementation. Our database and email service monitors thousands of cities, counties, schools, non-profits, and multi-jurisdiction consortia. Our network of 2,500 lobbyists have the experience, knowledge and relationships needed for your firm to pursue and win the deal. For more information, call 916 · 788 · 0800 or email mgorsen@multistate.com www.multistate.com

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Alabama HR 430

Last Action:

05/09/2007 Reported from Rules; Guin motion to Adopt adopted Voice Vote

Synopsis:

~~Establishes the House Interim Committee to Study Broadband Internet Access.~~

Arkansas H.B. 1589

Last Action: Enacted March 30, 2007

Synopsis: Enables the use of electric utility power lines to deploy broadband networks.

Arkansas S.B. 832

Last Action: 04/3/2007 Withdrawn by author

Synopsis:

~~Establishes the Wireless Information Network for all state, county, and municipal agencies.~~

Arkansas S.B. 924

Last Action: Enacted March 28, 2007

Synopsis: Provides for the creation and operation of the Connect Arkansas nonprofit organization to promote broadband education and deployment.

Arkansas S.B. 925

Last Action: Not enacted

~~Synopsis: Increases the delivery of broadband internet to citizens of the state.~~

California E.O. 2

Last Action: 11/28/2006 Filed with Secretary of State.

Synopsis: (Executive Order 06-23) Creates a California Broadband Task Force to remove barriers to broadband access, identify opportunities for increased broadband adoption, and enable the creation and deployment of new advanced communication technologies.

California S.B. 323

Last Action: 05/17/2007 Passed Senate, sent to Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee

Synopsis: Requires the Public Utilities Commission, by January 1, 2009, and by January 1 of each year through 2013, to report to the Legislature on the availability of two-way broadband telecommunications access in the state.

Connecticut H.B. 6502

Last Action: 03/320/07 Failed to meet legislative deadline

~~Synopsis: Concerns wireless internet access; maximizes economic and other development through wireless internet access.~~

Connecticut H.B. 6780

Last Action: Reissued March 26, 2007

~~Synopsis: Concerns widespread broadband internet access; allows municipalities to offer broadband wireless Internet service.~~

Hawaii H.B. 310

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Last Action:
07/10/2007 Enacted .

Synopsis:
Establishes a state broadband task force.

Status:
05/07/2007 In House; Transmitted to Governor.

Hawaii H.B. 1432
Last Action: 02/15/2007 In House; Reported from the committee on Legislative Management (Standing Committee Report No. 481), recommending referral to the committee on Finance.; Report adopted; referred to the committee(s) on Finance .

Synopsis: ~~Establishes a statewide wireless access task force that shall study the feasibility of creating a state owned and operated wireless network; relates to statewide wireless access task force.~~

Hawaii H.C.R. 295

Synopsis:
~~Requests the Hawaii state legislature to convene a Hawaii broadband task force to expand broadband access and usage in Hawaii.~~

Status:
04/03/2007 In House; Report adopted; referred to the committee(s) on Legislative Management .

Hawaii S.C.R. 62

Synopsis:
~~Requests the State Legislature to convene a Broadband Task Force to expand broadband access and usage.~~

Status:
04/10/2007 In House; Referred to Economic Development & Business Concerns, Finance

Illinois H.B. 754
Last Action: Engrossed April 27, 2007

Synopsis: ~~Creates the High Speed Internet Services and Information Technology Act and amends the State Finance Act. Provides that the Lieutenant Governor, with the advice of the Broadband Deployment Council, shall enlist a nonprofit corporation to implement a comprehensive, statewide high speed Internet deployment strategy and adoption initiative. Specifies the duties of the nonprofit organization.~~

Illinois H.B. 1258
Last Action: 05/25/2007 Re-referred to Rules Committee

Synopsis: ~~Creates the Universal Access to Broadband Services Act. Requires a survey assessing interest in creating a local broadband plan and providing technical assistance. Adds language including health care facilities and providers as part of the Century Network. Deletes provisions concerning the use of moneys in the Digital Divide Elimination Infrastructure Fund. Deletes provisions regarding universal access.~~

Illinois H.B. 1458
Last Action: 03/23/2007 In House; Rule 19(a) / Re-referred to Rules Committee

Synopsis: ~~Amends the Illinois Finance Authority Act. Authorizes the Illinois Finance Authority to issue bonds and to guarantee loans to finance broadband projects in the State. Sets forth the powers of the Authority with respect to~~

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~~broadband financing. Sets forth requirements for State guarantees of broadband financing. Requires monetary transfers and continuing appropriations to funds of the Authority for broadband financing purposes.~~

Illinois H.B. 1859

Last Action: 03/23/2007 In House; Rule 19(a) / Re-referred to Rules Committee

~~Synopsis: Amends the Illinois Finance Authority Act. Authorizes the Illinois Finance Authority to issue bonds and to guarantee loans to finance broadband projects in the State. Sets forth the powers of the Authority with respect to broadband financing. Sets forth requirements for State guarantees of broadband financing. Requires monetary transfers and continuing appropriations to funds of the Authority for broadband financing purposes.~~

Illinois H.B. 5361

Synopsis:

~~Amends the Illinois Finance Authority Act. Authorizes the Illinois Finance Authority to issue bonds and to guarantee loans to finance broadband projects in the State. Sets forth the powers of the Authority with respect to broadband financing. Sets forth requirements for State guarantees of broadband financing. Requires monetary transfers and continuing appropriations to funds of the Authority for broadband financing purposes.~~

Status:

01/26/2006 INTRODUCED.

01/26/2006 To HOUSE Committee on RULES.

02/07/2006 To HOUSE Committee on EXECUTIVE.

Illinois S.B. 309

Last Action: 05/31/2007 Re-referred to Rules Committee

~~Synopsis: Creates the Rural Technology Development Zone Act. Allows the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to designate 3 rural areas in the State as rural technology development zones. Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall submit a report to the General Assembly outlining the progress in improving wireless telecommunications and Internet access within rural technology development zones.~~

Illinois S.B. 746

Full Text Link:

<http://www.multistate.com/Procurement.nsf/billdetail?openform&billid=IL+S.B.+746>

Last Action:

08/23/2007 In Senate; Governor Approved; Effective Date August 30, 2007; Public Act 95-0387

Synopsis:

Amends the School Code and the State Finance Act. Extends the technology immersion pilot project established by the State Board of Education to provide a wireless laptop to each student, teacher and relevant administrator. Extends the repeal of provisions concerning the technology immersion pilot project to August 31, 2010.

Illinois S.B. 678

Last Action: 6/30/2007 Public Act 95-0009

Synopsis: Creates the Broadband Access on Passenger Rail Act but no funding. Provides that the Department of Transportation shall deliver to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2007 a plan for ensuring high speed data transmission services at fair and reasonable prices on all passenger rail systems

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maintained by the National Passenger Railroad Corporation in Illinois and passenger rail systems under the jurisdiction of the Commuter Rail Board.

Indiana H.B. 1068

Last Action: 01/08/2007 In House; Introduced; First reading: referred to Committee on Commerce, Energy and Utilities

~~Synopsis: Allows the utility regulatory commission (IURC) to authorize certain incentives for an electric utility that deploys a broadband over power lines (BPL) system, with respect to that part of the system that is used and useful in providing electric utility service to customers; requires the electric utility to record and account for its capital investment and operating expenses reasonably incurred.~~

Indiana H.B. 1662

Synopsis:

~~Requires the utility regulatory commission (IURC) to conduct a study to determine the availability and quality of broadband service; specifies certain data that the IURC must collect in conducting the study; requires the IURC to prepare certain maps depicting the availability of broadband service; allows the IURC to use certain sources of information to determine the areas in which providers offer broadband service.~~

Status:

01/23/2007 In House; Introduced; Coauthored by Representative(s) Reske; First reading: referred to Committee on Technology, Research and Development

Indiana S.B. 489

Full Text Link:

<http://www.multistate.com/Procurement.nsf/billdetail?openform&billid=IN+S.B.+489>

Synopsis:

Establishes the rural health care pilot program support fund to provide grants to health care providers who participate in the federal rural health care pilot program; makes an appropriation; includes construction of broadband networks.

Status:

05/24/2007 In House; Effective 07/01/2007

Iowa H.B. 622

Last Action: 03/13/2007 In House; Subcommittee, Ford, Swaim, and Watts.

~~Synopsis: Relates to the operation of the Iowa communications network by providing for expansion of the network to facilitate statewide wireless network access; eliminates a provision relating to the lease of specified network components; makes appropriations.~~

Indiana S.B. 524

Synopsis:

Provides that definitions establishing the Finance Authority (IFA) apply throughout all other laws administered by the authority; abolishes the Health and Educational Facility Financing Authority and transfers its powers and duties to the IFA; provides for the Public Finance Director; relates to the Economic Development Corporation; relates to industrial development projects, broadband development, loan interest rates and the Capital Access Program; includes farm loans and mortgage insurance companies.

Status:

05/23/2007 In House; Public Law 162

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Iowa H.S.B. 317

Synopsis:

~~Request the formation of an interim study committee by the Legislative Council to make recommendation relating to the development and implementation of a statewide wireless broadband network.~~

Status:

04/19/2007 To HOUSE Committee on WAYS AND MEANS.

Kansas H.B. 2157

Last Action: 01/24/2007 In House; Hearing: Wed., 1/31/2007

~~Synopsis: Concerns broadband technologies; requires a survey on deployment.~~

Kansas H.B. 2448

Last Action: 02/14/2007 In House; Hearing: Tues., 2/20/2007

~~Synopsis: Concerns telecommunications; establishes the Wireless High Speed Internet Service Grant Program.~~

Kentucky S.B. 74

Last Action: 03/21/2007 signed by Governor (Acts Ch. 37)

Synopsis: Relates to local government; requires the Department for Local Government to track the deployment and adoption of broadband and information technology in Kentucky; enable public-private partnerships among broadband providers and relevant government entities to encourage the deployment and adoption of advanced broadband services, to ensure notification to the public and the availability of public funds for broadband and information technology investments prior to awarding any contracts or grants.

Maine H.B. 189

Last Action: 4/24/2007 Dead

~~Synopsis: Authorizes a General Fund bond issue to encourage municipal high speed Internet access.~~

Maine H.B. 537

Synopsis: Provides for legislative review of Chapter 324; relates to ConnectME Tax Reimbursements, a major substantive rule of state Revenue Services; relates to wireless broadband connections and telephone calls; provides for a business investment tax incentive for infrastructure development.

Status: 05/16/2007 Signed by the Governor (Emergency Measure)

Maine H.B. 586

Status:

05/16/2007 Signed by the Governor (Emergency Measure)

Synopsis: Provides for legislative review of portions of ConnectME Authority, Chapter 101, a major substantive rule of the Governor's Office; relates to provision of broadband and mobile services in underserved areas; provides for funding, financial commitment to the project, community support and business incentives.

Maine L.R. 1155

Last Action: 01/16/2007 Assigned House Paper number 189 and LD 218.

~~Synopsis: Authorizes a General Fund bond issue to encourage municipal high speed Internet access.~~

Maryland H.B. 1069

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Last Action: 03/13/2007 In House; Withdrawn

~~Synopsis: Requires the Public Service Commission to adopt regulations requiring broadband providers to submit specified reports at specified times to the Commission on the deployment of specified broadband services to the public; specifies the required contents of the reports; requires the Commission to publish the reports on the Commission's website; states the intent of the General Assembly; defines specified terms.~~

Massachusetts H.D. 965

Synopsis:

Relates to broadband and telecommunications security.

Status:05/15/2007 In JOINT Committee on TELECOMMUNICATIONS, UTILITIES AND ENERGY: Heard.
Eligible for Executive Session.

Synopsis: ~~Relates to broadband and telecommunications security.~~

Minnesota H.B. 2107

Last Action: 03/21/2007 In House; Referred by Chair to Telecommunications Regulation and Infrastructure Division

Synopsis: ~~Relates to telecommunications; sets certain goals; provides for a Broadband Policy Director and Advisory Board.~~

Minnesota S.B. 1918

Last Action: 03/23/2007 In Senate; Author added Carlson

Synopsis: ~~Relates to telecommunications; sets certain goals; provides for a Broadband Policy Director and Advisory Board.~~

Missouri H.B. 1020

Last Action: 5/18/2007 Referred to Committee on Utilities

Synopsis: ~~Continues to allow political subdivisions to provide internet access services and facilities under certain circumstances if services and facilities were provided as of September 1, 2007.~~

New Hampshire L.S.R. 1189

Last Action: 02/09/2007 Assigned Bill Number: S 224

Synopsis: Authorizes municipalities to establish Wi-Fi networks.

New Jersey A.B. 3752

Last Action: 03/08/2007 Assembly Floor Amendment Passed (Chivukula)

Synopsis: Authorizes counties to develop broadband telecommunications infrastructure used for providing broadband telecommunications service via wireless community networks.

New Jersey S.B. 2368, Substituted SB 2053

Last Action: 6/21/2007 Passes Assembly 69-10

Synopsis: Authorizes counties to develop broadband telecommunications infrastructure used for providing broadband telecommunications service via wireless community networks.

New Jersey S.B. 2472

Last Action: 01/09/2007 Introduced in the Senate, Referred to Senate Economic Growth Committee

Synopsis: Allows municipalities to provide broadband telecommunications infrastructure and service in partnership with private entities.

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New York A.B. 2435

Last Action: 01/17/2007 Introduced and referred to committee on Assembly Corporations Authorities Commissions

Synopsis: Creates the New York state broadband development authority; details the purposes and powers of the authority; determines the make-up of the members of the board for the authority; authorizes the authority to issue bonds or notes; creates the broadband development authority reserve capital account and the broadband development authority capital reserve fund; requires the authority to be subject to a code of ethics.

New York A.B. 2460

Last Action: 6/6/2007 Amendment and recommit to Assembly G&O

Synopsis: Establishes that wireless Internet access service shall be provided to the public at the state capitol building, legislative office building, the empire state plaza, state library and state museum.

New York A.B. 2726

Last Action: 01/18/2007 Introduced and referred to committee on Assembly Ways and Means

Synopsis: Creates a tax credit for providers of certain broadband Internet access services.

New York A.B. 4357

Last Action: 02/02/2007 Introduced and referred to committee on Assembly Governmental Operations

Synopsis: Provides for community access networks as part of a sponsored wireless information network of the State Office for Technology.

New York A.B. 4586

Last Action: 02/05/2007 Introduced and referred to committee on Assembly Corporations Authorities Commissions

Synopsis: Enacts the Broadband Deployment Act; requires municipalities to grant access to the use of rights-of-way, easements, and public places; requires that a municipality adopt only neutrally competitive and nondiscriminatory rules and regulations.

New York A.B. 6688

Last Action: 6/12/2007 Amended and recommit to committee on Assembly Ways and Means

Synopsis: Establishes a user tax credit for the installation or purchase of satellite broadband equipment for taxpayers residing in a broadband underserved area, and provides definitions thereof.

New York A.B. 6689

Last Action: 03/16/2007 Introduced and referred to committee on Assembly Ways and Means

Synopsis: Establishes a tax credit for investment in terrestrial broadband infrastructure to a taxpayer living in a broadband underserved area.

New York S.B. 1049

05/22/2007 Committee meeting set for Senate Energy and Telecommunications; Reported and committed to Senate Finance

Synopsis: Creates a tax credit for providers of certain broadband internet access services.

New York S.B. 2059

Last Action: 06/21/2007 Recommit to committee on Rules

Synopsis: Establishes that wireless internet access service shall be provided to the public at the State Capitol Building, Legislative Office Building, the Empire State Plaza, State Library and State Museum.

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New York S.B. 5151

4/25/2007 Introduced and referred to Senate Corporations Committee

Synopsis:

Creates a Statewide Wireless Task Force; the purpose of the task force is to make recommendations to the legislature with respect to the formation of a statewide public authority to construct a statewide system of wireless internet and telecommunications.

Status:

04/25/2007 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Corporations Authorities & Commissions

New York S.B. 5533

Synopsis: Enacts the New York State Wireless Broadband Communication Act of 2007.

Status:

04/25/2007 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Veterans Affairs & Homeland Security

New York S.B. 5600

Synopsis:

Enacts the New York State Wireless Multiple Radio District Act of 2007.

Status:

04/25/2007 Introduced and referred to committee on Senate Veterans Affairs & Homeland Security

North Carolina H.B. 1587

7/26/2007 In Senate Received from House to Committee on Rules and Operations of the Senate"

Synopsis:

~~Establishes requirements for local governments that provide communications services to the public.~~

" PART 1A. LOCAL GOVERNMENT OWNED OR OPERATED COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE.

(2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT OWNED COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDER. - A LOCAL GOVERNMENT WHICH OPERATES A PUBLIC ENTERPRISE UNDER G.S. 106A-311 THAT PROVIDES COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC FOR A FEE OVER A FACILITY, OPERATION, OR SYSTEM THAT IS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY OWNED OR OPERATED BY OR PROVIDES A FINANCIAL BENEFIT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR ANOTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

(3) COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK. - A WIRED OR WIRELESS NETWORK FOR THE PROVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE.

North Carolina H.B. 2416

Last Action: 05/24/2006 To HOUSE Committee on APPROPRIATIONS.

There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management the sum of five million three hundred thousand dollars (\$ 5,300,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2006-2007 fiscal year and the sum of twenty-four million dollars (\$ 24,000,000) in recurring funds for the 2006-2007 fiscal year. These funds shall be used by the NC Education Network to:

- (1) Expand the number of public schools serving prekindergarten through grade 12 with broadband connectivity;
- (2) Provide the "last mile connectivity" to public schools;
- (3) Infuse technology into schools' instructional efforts;
- (4) Maximize the use of e-rate;
- (5) Revise School Technology Plans; and
- (6) Provide for support personnel, network operations, security, and other appropriate expenditures that are directly connected to the operations of the NC Education Network.

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North Dakota D. 179

Last Action: 10/13/2006 FILED.

~~Synopsis: Relates to tax expenditure reports and business incentive reports; relates to the seed capital investment tax credit and to tax exemptions for tourism equipment and wireless service provider equipment; relates to beginning entrepreneur income tax deduction.~~

Ohio H.B. 72

Last Action: 03/06/2007 To HOUSE Committee on PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Synopsis: Creates the Broadband and Wireless Telecommunications Task Force.

Pennsylvania H.B. 327

Last Action: 02/09/2007 In House; Referred to CONSUMER AFFAIRS

~~Synopsis: Amends the Public Utilities Code. Further provides for network modernization plans. Provides for political subdivision advanced and broadband services deployment.~~

South Carolina H.B. 3569

Last Action: 07/30/2007 Act No. 169

Synopsis: Creates the South Carolina Wireless Technology and Communications Commission for the purpose of implementing a statewide wireless broadband network; provides for its membership, powers, and duties.

South Carolina S.B. 464

Last Action: 02/22/2007 In Senate; Referred to Subcommittee: Moore (ch), Ford, Mescher, Rankin, Scott

~~Synopsis: Relates to communication services; includes definitions for commercial mobile radio service and end-user subscriber line; relates to the establishment of a State universal service; includes wireless providers.~~

South Carolina S.B. 465

Last Action: 02/22/2007 In Senate; Referred to Subcommittee: Moore (ch), Ford, Mescher, Rankin, Scott

~~Synopsis: (Joint Resolution) Creates the Wireless Technology and Communications Commission for the purpose of implementing a statewide wireless broadband network; provides for its membership, powers, and duties.~~

Tennessee H.B. 2099

Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; expands the membership of the Tennessee Broadband Task Force to include a representative of the department of education and requires the task force to submit an assessment of the state of broadband deployment on an annual basis.

Status: 05/23/2007 Companion became Public Chapter 164

Tennessee H.B. 2100

Last Action: 4/30 Substituted S. 5180

~~Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; creates the nonprofit Tennessee Broadband Access Corporation to facilitate the deployment of broadband technologies across the state.~~

Tennessee H.B. 2102

Last Action: 02/22/2007 Passed second consideration, caption bill, held on desk - pending amendment

~~Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; requires the department of economic and community development to establish a ConnectTN program to bring statewide broadband expansion.~~

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Tennessee H.B. 2103

Last Action: 03/06/2007 Assigned to Subcommittee Utilities & Banking of Commerce

~~Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; requires the department of economic and community development to establish a ConnectTN program to bring statewide broadband expansion; provides for Tennessee Regulatory Authority to gather certain data.~~

Tennessee H.B. 2104

Last Action: 03/06/2007 Assigned to Subcommittee Utilities & Banking of Commerce

~~Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; requires the department of economic and community development to establish a ConnectTN program in consultation with local governments to bring statewide broadband expansion.~~

Tennessee S.B. 1572

Last Action: 5/1/07 Assigned to Sen. Gov. Ops Committee

~~Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; creates the nonprofit Tennessee Broadband Access Corporation to facilitate the deployment of broadband technologies across the state.~~

Tennessee S.B. 1580

Last Action: 05/23/2007 Effective date(s) 05/15/07; Public Chapter 164

Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; expands the membership of the Tennessee Broadband Task Force to include a representative of the department of education and requires the task force to submit an assessment of the state of broadband deployment on an annual basis.

Tennessee S.B. 1715

Last Action: 02/12/2007 Passed second consideration, Referred to Senate Commerce, Labor and Agriculture Committee

~~Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to establish a state Telecommunications Network program to bring statewide broadband expansion.~~

Tennessee S.B. 1716

Last Action: 02/12/2007 Passed second consideration, Referred to Senate Commerce, Labor and Agriculture Committee

~~Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to establish a state Telecommunications Network program to bring state-wide broadband expansion; provides for state Regulatory Authority to gather certain data.~~

Tennessee S.B. 1717

Last Action: 02/12/2007 Passed second consideration, Referred to Senate Commerce, Labor and Agriculture Committee

~~Synopsis: Concerns Telecommunications; requires the Department of Economic and Community Development to establish a state Telecommunications Network program in consultation with local governments to bring state-wide broadband expansion.~~

Utah S.B. 268

Last Action: 4/2/07 Chaptered

Synopsis: Establishes a restricted account within the General Fund to be used for grants to providers deploying broadband service in rural areas.

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Vermont H.B. 248

Last Action: 06/04/2007 Signed by the Governor

Synopsis: Statement of purpose: This bill would establish a Vermont telecommunications authority to facilitate the establishment and delivery of wireless and broadband infrastructure and services for residents and businesses throughout Vermont.

Vermont H.B. 326

Last Action: 02/20/2007 In House; 1st Reading; Assigned to Government Operations

~~Synopsis: Requires the commissioner of the department of buildings and general services to provide free wireless internet access at those rest areas and welcome centers on interstate highways where available.~~

Vermont H.B. 443

Last Action: 03/01/2007 In House; 1st Reading; Assigned to Commerce

~~Synopsis: Requires all basic exchange telecommunications service providers to adopt a network modernization plan to accelerate availability of broadband and wireless telecommunications in the provider's service area by specific dates; requires each network modernization plan to be filed with the public service board and made available to the public in the form and detail required by the board.~~

Vermont H.B. 855

~~Synopsis: Directs the Department of Public Service to create a website to provide consumer information about broadband telecommunications service in Vermont, including a map showing the areas of service with a way for providers to update their information. The bill proposes that the department reconfigure the grant program to target areas of greatest need. A revolving loan fund is established to provide start-up and operating capital for projects serving unserved and underserved areas.~~

Status: 02/14/2006 To HOUSE Committee on COMMERCE.

Virginia H.B. 400

~~Synopsis: Adds a provision in the Governor's Development Opportunity Fund to allow grants or loans for the purpose of installing, extending, or increasing the capacity of high-speed or broadband internet access to rural or underserved areas; requires the Economic Development Partnership Authority to address attracting companies that will provide broadband or high-speed internet access to rural and underserved areas.~~

Status: 01/26/2006 To SENATE Committee on FINANCE.

Virginia H.B. 1161

~~Synopsis: Adds telecommunications connectivity, broadband internet access, additional telephone lines, and online collaborative tools; to the list of specific budget items that the heads of state agencies must include in their report to the Secretary of Administration on telecommuting and participation in alternative work schedules by state employees.~~

Status: 02/15/2006 From SENATE Committee on GENERAL LAWS AND TECHNOLOGY: Reported favorably.

Virginia H.B. 2381

Last Action: 03/20/2007 Acts of Assembly. Chapter No. 649

Synopsis: Specifies that the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act can be used for projects related to the technology and infrastructure necessary to deploy wireless broadband services to schools, businesses and residential areas.

Virginia H.B. 2385

Last Action: 03/13/2007 Acts of Assembly. Chapter No. 322.

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Synopsis: Relates to tangible personal property; separates classification for wireless broadband service providers; creates a separate classification for local taxation purposes for tangible personal property owned and used by the providers of wireless broadband Internet service in providing such service.

Washington S.B. 5120

Last Action: 02/26/2007 In Senate; WET - Majority; do pass. And refer to Ways & Means. Referred to Ways & Means.

~~Synopsis: Provides that the department of community, trade, and economic development shall commission a survey on the deployment of broadband technologies among households in the state. The survey shall be conducted by an appropriate entity having expertise in the access and utilization of modern information technologies among underserved populations. Requires the survey to collect and interpret statistically reliable geographic, demographic, and telecommunications.~~

West Virginia H.B. 3007

Last Action: 02/12/2007 Filed for introduction; To Committee on Industry and Labor, Economic Development and Small Business then to Committee on Finance; Introduced in House; To House Committee on Industry and Labor, Economic Development and Small Business

~~Synopsis: Relates to expanding wireless infrastructure within this state.~~

West Virginia S.B. 517

Last Action: 02/08/2007 Filed for introduction; To Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure then to Committee on Finance; Introduced in Senate; To Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure then to Committee on Finance; To Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

~~Synopsis: Creates Wireless Infrastructure Act.~~