

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Murzin offered the following:

2
3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

5 Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that broadband
6 Internet service is critical to the economic development of the
7 state and is beneficial for libraries, schools, colleges and
8 universities, health care providers, and community
9 organizations. The Legislature further finds that barriers exist
10 to the statewide deployment of broadband Internet service,
11 especially in rural, unserved, or underserved communities. The
12 Legislature therefore intends to promote the efficient and
13 effective deployment of broadband Internet service throughout
14 the state through a coordinated statewide effort.

15 (2) The Department of Management Services is authorized to
16 work collaboratively with, and to receive staffing support and
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17 other resources from, Enterprise Florida, Inc., state agencies,
18 local governments, private businesses, and community
19 organizations to:

20 (a) Conduct a needs assessment of broadband Internet
21 service in collaboration with communications service providers,
22 including, but not limited to, wireless and wireline Internet
23 service providers, to develop geographical information system
24 maps at the census tract level that:

25 1. Identify geographic gaps in broadband Internet service,
26 including areas unserved by any broadband service provider and
27 areas served by a single broadband service provider.

28 2. Identify the download and upload transmission speeds
29 made available to businesses and individuals in the state, at
30 the census tract level of detail, using the data rate benchmarks
31 for broadband service used by the Federal Communications
32 Commission to reflect different speed tiers.

33 3. Provide a baseline assessment of statewide broadband
34 Internet service deployment in terms of the percentage of
35 households with broadband service availability.

36 (b) Create a strategic plan that has goals and strategies
37 for increasing the use of broadband Internet service in the
38 state.

39 (c) Build and facilitate local technology planning teams
40 or partnerships with members representing cross-sections of the
41 community, which may include, but are not limited to,
42 representatives from the following organizations and industries:
43 libraries, K-12 education, colleges and universities, local
44 health care providers, private businesses, community

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45 organizations, economic development organizations, local
46 governments, tourism, parks and recreation, and agriculture.

47 (d) Encourage the use of broadband Internet service,
48 especially in the rural, unserved, and underserved communities
49 of the state through grant programs that utilize effective
50 strategies to facilitate the statewide deployment of broadband
51 Internet service. For any grants to be awarded, priority must be
52 given to projects that:

53 1. Provide access to broadband education, awareness,
54 training, access, equipment, and support to libraries, schools,
55 colleges and universities, health care providers, and community
56 support organizations.

57 2. Encourage investments in primarily unserved areas to
58 give consumers a choice of more than one broadband service
59 provider.

60 3. Work toward establishing affordable and sustainable
61 broadband Internet service in unserved areas of the state.

62 4. Facilitate the development of applications, programs,
63 and services, including, but not limited to, telework,
64 telemedicine, and e-learning to increase the usage of, and
65 demand for, broadband Internet service in the state.

66 (3) The department may apply for and accept federal funds
67 for purposes of this section, as well as gifts and donations
68 from individuals, foundations, and private organizations.

69 (4) The department may enter into contracts to carry out
70 the purposes of this section and is encouraged to contract with
71 nonprofit entities when feasible.

72 (5) The department may establish any committee or

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73 workgroup for purposes of administering this section.

74 (6) The department may adopt rules pursuant to ss.
75 120.536(1) and 120.54, Florida Statutes, to administer this
76 section, including, but not limited to, rules that define terms
77 for purposes of this section.

78 (7) The department may adopt emergency rules pursuant to
79 s. 120.54, Florida Statutes. The Legislature finds that such
80 emergency rulemaking authority is necessary for preservation of
81 the rights and welfare of the public in order to provide
82 additional funds for the benefit of this state. The Legislature
83 further finds that the activity authorized in this section
84 requires that the department periodically respond as quickly as
85 practicable to changes in the marketplace and the federal and
86 state regulatory environment. Therefore, in adopting such
87 emergency rules, the department need not make the findings
88 required by s. 120.54(4)(a), Florida Statutes.

89 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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92 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

93 Remove the entire title and insert:

94 A bill to be entitled

95 An act relating to broadband Internet service; providing
96 legislative findings and intent; authorizing the
97 Department of Management Services to engage in certain
98 activities related to assessing the need for broadband
99 Internet service in the state, planning for such service,
100 and encouraging the statewide deployment of such service;

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HOUSE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 7091

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101 authorizing the department to apply for and accept certain
102 funds; authorizing the department to enter into contracts;
103 authorizing the department to establish committees or
104 workgroups; authorizing the department to adopt rules;
105 authorizing the department to adopt emergency rules;
106 providing legislative findings; exempting such emergency
107 rules from certain administrative procedures; providing an
108 effective date.

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