

By the Committees on Appropriations; and Commerce and Tourism;
and Senator Boyd

576-03565-22

20221802c2

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Broadband Pole Replacement
3 Trust Fund; creating s. 288.9965, F.S.; creating the
4 trust fund within the Department of Economic
5 Opportunity; providing the purpose of the trust fund;
6 providing that moneys credited to the trust fund shall
7 consist of certain funds; requiring that certain funds
8 in the trust fund be used in a manner consistent with
9 federal law or grant agreement for use of the funds;
10 providing that the balance in the trust fund at the
11 end of a fiscal year remains in the trust fund and is
12 available for carrying out the purposes of the trust
13 fund; providing for future legislative review and
14 termination or re-creation of the trust fund;
15 providing a contingent effective date.

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17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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19 Section 1. Section 288.9965, Florida Statutes, is created
20 to read:

21 288.9965 Broadband Pole Replacement Trust Fund.-

22 (1) The Broadband Pole Replacement Trust Fund is created
23 within the Department of Economic Opportunity for the purpose of
24 providing reimbursements to qualified applicants under the
25 Broadband Pole Replacement Program pursuant to s. 288.9964 and
26 for use by the Florida Office of Broadband in the administration
27 of that program. Moneys credited to the trust fund shall consist
28 of funds appropriated by the Legislature; funds transferred by
29 the department; interest earnings; and grants, gifts, and other

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30 contributions made directly to the trust fund. Any funds in the
31 trust fund appropriated from federal funds must be used in a
32 manner consistent with federal conditions or regulations, as
33 applicable, and with any grant agreement entered into by the
34 department with the federal agency for use of the funds.

35 (2) Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351,
36 any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year
37 shall remain in the trust fund at the end of the year and shall
38 be available for carrying out the purposes of the trust fund.

39 (3) In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the State
40 Constitution, unless terminated sooner, the Broadband Pole
41 Replacement Trust Fund shall be terminated July 1, 2026. Before
42 its scheduled termination, the trust fund shall be reviewed as
43 provided in s. 215.3206(1) and (2).

44 Section 2. This act shall take effect on the same date that
45 SB 1800 or similar legislation takes effect, if such legislation
46 is adopted in the same legislative session or an extension
47 thereof and becomes a law.