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1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The deployment and adoption of rural high-speed  
3 Internet services and information technology has resulted in  
4 enhanced economic development and public safety for the State's  
5 communities, improved health care and educational  
6 opportunities, and a better quality of life for the State's  
7 residents; and

8 WHEREAS, Continued progress in the deployment and adoption  
9 of rural high speed Internet services and information  
10 technology is vital in ensuring that the State of Illinois  
11 remains competitive and continues to create business and job  
12 growth; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
14 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE SENATE  
15 CONCURRING HEREIN, that the Rural Broadband Deployment Task  
16 Force is created; and be it further

17 RESOLVED, That the Rural Broadband Deployment Task Force  
18 shall consist of the following members:

19 (1) one Senate member appointed by the Senate  
20 President, who shall serve as co-chairperson;

21 (2) one Senate member appointed by the Senate Minority  
22 Leader;

1           (3) one House member appointed by the Speaker of the  
2 House, who shall serve as co-chairperson;

3           (4) one House member appointed by the House Minority  
4 Leader;

5           (5) the Director of Commerce and Economic Opportunity,  
6 or his or her designee;

7           (6) the Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission,  
8 or his or her designee;

9           (7) the Secretary of Transportation, or his or her  
10 designee;

11           (8) the Chairman of the Illinois State Toll Highway  
12 Authority, or his or her designee;

13           (9) the Chairman of the Illinois Finance Authority, or  
14 his or her designee;

15           (10) the State Superintendent of Education, or his or  
16 her designee;

17           (11) the Chairman of the Board of Higher Education, or  
18 his or her designee

19           (12) the Director of Central Management Services, or  
20 his or her designee; and

21           (13) the Director of Innovation & Technology, or his or  
22 her designee; and be it further

23           RESOLVED, That appointments to the Rural Broadband  
24 Deployment Task Force shall be made with consideration of the  
25 diversity of the State, including members representing rural

1 areas, underserved rural areas, consumer interests, community  
2 interests, commercial interests including Incumbent and  
3 Competitive Local Exchange Carriers, and other entities  
4 providing communications or information services but not  
5 classified as Local Exchange Carriers; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That the Rural Broadband Deployment Task Force  
7 shall be charged with the following duties:

8 (1) identify those portions of the rural  
9 telecommunications infrastructure owned by agencies of the  
10 State of Illinois that can be made available for lease to  
11 commercial ventures, non-profit agencies, and local  
12 governments and to establish standard procedures and  
13 pricing for lease of that infrastructure;

14 (2) study any rural infrastructure improvements that  
15 are currently underway by the State of Illinois; this  
16 includes the installation of an underground conduit that  
17 can be made available on a non-discriminatory basis to  
18 public, private, and non-profit entities interested in  
19 running fiber-optic lines for communications or  
20 information services through the conduit;

21 (3) study the current level of coordination between  
22 rural private and public telecommunications deployment,  
23 including, but not limited to, grant-making and financing  
24 of various statewide, local, and regional efforts and  
25 public-private partnerships;

1           (4) study the available rural State, federal, and  
2 private funding sources for private and public  
3 telecommunications deployment;

4           (5) study rural telecommunications initiatives that  
5 require legislative approval, including the creation of a  
6 State entity that handles distribution of funds for private  
7 and public telecommunications projects;

8           (7) study ways to foster competition among all rural  
9 entities providing commercial communications or  
10 information services; and

11           (8) assess and catalog the rural telecommunications  
12 infrastructure of the State of Illinois for the purpose of  
13 determining the present and future needs of the State with  
14 respect to realizing the goals of competition,  
15 affordability, universal service, and securing the State's  
16 telecommunications and economic future; and be it further

17           RESOLVED, That members of the Rural Broadband Deployment  
18 Task Force shall serve without compensation and the Illinois  
19 Department of Innovation & Technology shall provide  
20 administrative and other support to the Task Force; and be it  
21 further

22           RESOLVED, That the Rural Broadband Deployment Task Force  
23 shall submit its final report to General Assembly by December  
24 31, 2018; and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That upon the filing of its final report, the  
2           Rural Broadband Deployment Task Force is dissolved.