



Sen. Rachel Ventura

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10300SB1437sam001

LRB103 27903 SPS 58516 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 1437

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 1437 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Broadband Advisory Council Act is amended
5 by changing Section 20 and by adding Section 30 as follows:

6 (220 ILCS 80/20)

7 Sec. 20. Powers and duties of the Council generally.

8 (a) The Council shall:

9 (1) explore any and all ways to expand the
10 availability to end-user customers of broadband services
11 using available technologies, including, but not limited
12 to, wireline, wireless, fixed wireless, and satellite
13 applications;

14 (2) identify barriers to broadband adoption among the
15 residents and small businesses of Illinois;

16 (3) research ways to eliminate barriers to adoption

1 through measures such as: digital literacy programs;
2 programs to assist older citizens in using broadband
3 Internet access; programs to facilitate adoption by
4 disabled citizens; and programs to encourage collaborative
5 efforts among public universities, community colleges,
6 libraries, public housing, and other institutions;

7 (4) assess the availability of broadband for
8 low-income households compared to the availability of
9 broadband for other households;

10 (5) explore the potential for increased use of
11 broadband service for the purposes of education, career
12 readiness, workforce preparation, and alternative career
13 training;

14 (6) explore the potential for increased use of
15 broadband services to facilitate aging in place;

16 (7) explore ways for encouraging State and municipal
17 agencies, including public housing authorities, to expand
18 the use of broadband services for the purpose of better
19 serving the public, including audio and video streaming,
20 voice-over Internet protocol, teleconferencing, and
21 wireless networking;

22 (8) cooperate and assist in the expansion of
23 electronic instruction and distance education services;

24 ~~and~~

25 (9) as the Federal Communications Commission updates
26 the benchmark downstream data rates and upstream data

1 rates, publish the revised data rates in the Illinois
2 Register within 60 days after the federal update; ~~and-~~

3 (10) encourage the development of a State-owned and
4 operated retail broadband service, including issuing
5 recommendations for increasing agency staffing,
6 infrastructure development, price modeling, and deployment
7 that prioritizes unserved and underserved areas of the
8 State.

9 (b) In addition to the powers set forth elsewhere in this
10 Act, the Council is hereby granted the powers necessary to
11 carry out the purpose and intent of this Act, as enumerated in
12 this Section, including, but not limited to:

13 (1) promoting awareness of public facilities that have
14 community broadband access that can be used for distance
15 education and workforce development; and

16 (2) advising on deployment of e-government portals
17 such that all public bodies and political subdivisions
18 have websites and encourage one-stop government access and
19 that all public entities stream audio and video of all
20 public meetings.

21 (c) The Council shall also:

22 (1) monitor the broadband-based development efforts of
23 other states in areas such as business, education, aging
24 in place, and health;

25 (2) receive input provided on a voluntary basis from
26 all Illinois broadband stakeholders and advise the

1 Governor and the General Assembly on policies related to
2 broadband in Illinois, provided that no stakeholders shall
3 be required to publicly disclose competitively sensitive
4 information or information that could compromise network
5 security or undermine the efficacy of reasonable network
6 management practices, and that any such information
7 voluntarily disclosed shall be protected from public
8 disclosure; and

9 (3) serve as the broadband advocate to State agencies
10 and other State entities to communicate the broadband
11 needs of citizens and organizations that do not have
12 access to broadband service or to broadband service
13 adequate for their needs.

14 (d) The Council shall exercise its powers and authority to
15 (1) advise and make recommendations to the General Assembly
16 and the Governor on bringing broadband service to unserved
17 rural and urban areas and improving broadband service
18 statewide, (2) advise and make recommendations to the General
19 Assembly and the Governor on facilitating broadband adoption
20 by all citizens, and (3) propose statutory changes that may
21 enhance and expand broadband in the State.

22 (e) The Council shall report to the General Assembly on or
23 before January 1 of each year. The report to the General
24 Assembly shall be filed with the Clerk of the House of
25 Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate in electronic
26 form only, in the manner that the Clerk and the Secretary shall

1 direct. The report shall include the action that was taken by
2 the Council during the previous year in carrying out the
3 provisions of this Act. The Council shall also make any other
4 reports as may be required by the General Assembly or the
5 Governor.

6 (Source: P.A. 100-833, eff. 1-1-19.)

7 (220 ILCS 80/30 new)

8 Sec. 30. Universal retail broadband Internet access.

9 (a) In furtherance of the purposes of this Act to expand
10 affordable broadband service statewide, the Broadband Advisory
11 Council shall study the feasibility of the State constructing,
12 owning, and operating broadband infrastructure and offering
13 retail broadband service statewide. The Office of Broadband
14 within the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
15 shall support and assist the Council in the development of the
16 study.

17 (b) The feasibility study shall explore:

18 (1) efforts among other states and units of local
19 government to develop and administer public broadband
20 service;

21 (2) models for constructing, owning, and operating a
22 public retail broadband service network;

23 (3) the resources necessary to construct, own, and
24 operate a retail broadband service network across the
25 State of Illinois;

1 (4) the benefits of offering a public broadband
2 service option;

3 (5) potential sources of funding for the development
4 and operation of statewide broadband service;

5 (6) additional staff and contracting needs to develop
6 and operate a public broadband service network;

7 (7) options for partnering with units of local
8 government in Illinois that have taken steps toward
9 offering public broadband service; and

10 (8) any other factors that are necessary for the
11 development of a statewide public retail broadband
12 service.

13 The feasibility study shall offer recommendations for the
14 development and implementation of a State-owned statewide
15 retail broadband service, including a deployment timeline,
16 staffing needs, financial resources needed, and suggested
17 rates for broadband service.

18 (c) The Council shall issue a report on its findings and
19 recommendations for any necessary legislation to the General
20 Assembly by January 1, 2024.

21 Section 999. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
22 becoming law."