

UTAH BROADBAND OUTREACH CENTER

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephen G. Handy

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the Utah Broadband Outreach Center within the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED).

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ creates the Utah Broadband Outreach Center (center) within GOED;
- ▶ authorizes the executive director of GOED to appoint a director of the center;
- ▶ describes the duties of the center, which include:
 - coordinating broadband development policy and promotion among broadband providers, state and federal agencies, and local government entities;
 - making recommendations to the governor and Legislature regarding policies and initiatives that promote the development of broadband-related infrastructure in the state; and
 - coordinating with broadband providers and other relevant stakeholders to promote the voluntary expansion of broadband infrastructure in both rural and urban communities; and
- ▶ describes reporting requirements of the center.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates in fiscal year 2015:



- 59 (1) There is created within GOED the Utah Broadband Outreach Center.
- 60 (2) The executive director shall appoint a director of the center.
- 61 (3) The director of the center may appoint staff with the approval of the executive
- 62 director.

63 Section 4. Section **63N-12-304** is enacted to read:

64 **63N-12-304. Center responsibilities.**

- 65 (1) The center shall:
- 66 (a) coordinate broadband development policy and promotion among:
- 67 (i) voluntarily participating broadband providers in the state;
- 68 (ii) state and federal agencies; and
- 69 (iii) local government entities in the state;
- 70 (b) make recommendations to the governor and Legislature regarding policies and
- 71 initiatives that promote the development of broadband-related infrastructure and help
- 72 implement those policies and initiatives;
- 73 (c) promote policies and initiatives that encourage private-sector deployment of
- 74 infrastructure and public-private partnerships to increase broadband services to urban and rural
- 75 communities;
- 76 (d) facilitate coordination between broadband providers and public and private entities;
- 77 (e) coordinate with broadband providers and other relevant stakeholders to promote the
- 78 voluntary expansion of broadband infrastructure in both rural and urban communities;
- 79 (f) promote the adoption and utilization of up-to-date broadband technologies and
- 80 infrastructure; and
- 81 (g) collect and analyze data on broadband availability and usage in the state, including
- 82 Internet speed, capacity, unique visitors, and broadband infrastructure available throughout the
- 83 state.
- 84 (2) The center may:
- 85 (a) work with broadband providers, state and local governments, and other public and
- 86 private stakeholders to facilitate and encourage the expansion of broadband infrastructure
- 87 throughout the state;
- 88 (b) work with state and local government entities to promote best practices that
- 89 increase coordination between public and private partners and encourage broader deployment

90 of broadband infrastructure;

91 (c) work with various stakeholders, including the Office of Rural Development created
92 in Section 63N-4-102, the Governor's Rural Partnership Board created in Section 63C-10-102,
93 chambers of commerce, developers, and state and local governments to market existing
94 broadband infrastructure, particularly in rural communities;

95 (d) create a voluntary broadband advisory committee that may include broadband
96 providers and other public and private stakeholders to solicit input on policy guidance, best
97 practices, and broadband adoption strategies;

98 (e) partner with the Automated Geographic Reference Center created in Section
99 63F-1-506 to:

100 (i) collect and maintain a database and interactive map that displays residential and
101 commercial broadband data;

102 (ii) display data regarding broadband availability on the center's website and make the
103 data available for other state and national websites;

104 (iii) conduct research on broadband availability and adoption; and

105 (iv) conduct research to verify broadband availability data; and

106 (f) in accordance with the requirements of Title 63J, Chapter 5, Federal Funds
107 Procedures Act:

108 (i) apply for federal grants;

109 (ii) participate in federal programs; and

110 (iii) in accordance with federal requirements, administer federally funded
111 broadband-related programs.

112 Section 5. Section **63N-12-305** is enacted to read:

113 **63N-12-305. Reporting.**

114 (1) The center shall prepare an annual report describing the center's operations and
115 recommendations for inclusion in GOED's annual written report described in Section
116 63N-1-301.

117 (2) The center shall maintain a public website that:

118 (a) provides updated information regarding broadband coverage and availability in the
119 state; and

120 (b) provides information as determined by the center that aids in marketing and

121 expanding broadband and broadband infrastructure in the state.

122 **Section 6. Appropriation.**

123 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, for
124 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015, the following sums of money
125 are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated, or reduced from amounts
126 previously appropriated, out of the funds or accounts indicated. These sums of money are in
127 addition to any amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2015.

128 To Governor's Office of Economic Development – Utah Broadband Outreach Center
129 From General Fund, One-time \$75,000

130 Schedule of Programs:

131 Utah Broadband Outreach Center \$75,000

132 **Section 7. Appropriation.**

133 Under the terms and conditions of Title 63J, Chapter 1, Budgetary Procedures Act, for
134 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2015, and ending June 30, 2016, the following sums of money
135 are appropriated from resources not otherwise appropriated, or reduced from amounts
136 previously appropriated, out of the funds or accounts indicated. These sums of money are in
137 addition to any amounts previously appropriated for fiscal year 2016.

138 To Governor's Office of Economic Development – Utah Broadband Outreach Center
139 From General Fund \$350,000

140 Schedule of Programs:

141 Utah Broadband Outreach Center \$350,000

142 **Section 8. Effective date.**

143 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), if approved by two-thirds of all the members
144 elected to each house, this bill takes effect upon approval by the governor, or the day following
145 the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's
146 signature, or in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.

147 (2) Uncodified Section 7, Appropriation, takes effect on July 1, 2015.

Legislative Review Note
as of 2-25-15 10:40 AM

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel