

This Document can be made available in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-SECOND SESSION

H. F. No. 2165

03/11/2021 Authored by Akland, Theis, Urdahl, Erickson, Haley and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Industrial Education and Economic Development Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to broadband; appropriating money to the broadband grant program;
1.3 amending Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 116J.397.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 116J.397, is amended to read:

1.6 116J.397 UPDATED BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT DATA AND MAPS.

1.7 (a) ~~Beginning in 2016 and continuing each year thereafter,~~ The Office of Broadband
1.8 Development shall contract annually with one or more independent organizations that have
1.9 extensive experience working with Minnesota broadband providers to:

1.10 (1) collect broadband deployment data for wired and wireless systems from Minnesota
1.11 providers, verify its accuracy through on-the-ground testing, and create state and county
1.12 maps available to the public by ~~April 15, 2017,~~ and each April 15 ~~thereafter,~~ showing the
1.13 availability of broadband service at various upload and download speeds throughout
1.14 Minnesota;

1.15 (2) analyze the deployment data collected to help inform future investments in broadband
1.16 infrastructure; and

1.17 (3) conduct business and residential surveys that measure broadband adoption and use
1.18 in the state.

1.19 (b) Data provided by a broadband provider under this section is nonpublic data under
1.20 section 13.02, subdivision 9. Maps produced under this paragraph are public data under
1.21 section 13.03.

2.1 Sec. 2. **BROADBAND GRANT PROGRAM; APPROPRIATION.**

2.2 \$25,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 and \$25,000,000 in fiscal year 2023 are appropriated  
2.3 from the general fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for  
2.4 deposit in the border-to-border broadband fund account under Minnesota Statutes, section  
2.5 116J.396. The appropriation must be used to provide broadband service in unserved areas,  
2.6 and broadband infrastructure as defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.394, in  
2.7 underserved areas. This appropriation must not be used in areas scheduled to be built out  
2.8 through federal assistance. Except as specified in this section, the appropriation must be  
2.9 used for grants and the purposes specified under Minnesota Statutes, sections 116J.395 and  
2.10 116J.396. This is a onetime appropriation.