

A bill for an act
relating to telecommunications; establishing the High-Speed Broadband Task
Force; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 237.

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

Section 1. **[237.012] HIGH-SPEED BROADBAND TASK FORCE.**

(a) The High-Speed Broadband Task Force is established to make recommendations
of the governor and the legislature.

(b) The High-Speed Broadband Task Force consists of:

(1) one member representing higher educational systems, and one member
representing K-12 institutions or consortia;

(2) one member representing health care institutions located in the metropolitan area,
and one member representing health care institutions located in rural areas;

(3) one member representing telephone companies located in the metropolitan area,
and one member representing telephone companies with fewer than 50,000 subscribers
located in rural areas;

(4) one member representing cable communications systems providers located
in the metropolitan area, and one member representing cable communications systems
providers located in rural areas;

(5) one member representing Internet service providers;

(6) one member representing Minnesota counties;

(7) two members representing Minnesota cities;

(8) four citizen-at-large members representing Internet users, equally divided
between business and residential users in the metropolitan area and rural areas;

(9) the commissioner of commerce or the commissioner's designee;

(10) the commissioner of employment and economic development or the commissioner's designee;

(11) the commissioner of administration or the commissioner's designee;

(12) two members of the senate, including one member from the majority party and one member from the second largest political party in the senate, one of whom is from the metropolitan area and one from outside the metropolitan area, appointed by the chair of the senate committee with primary jurisdiction over telecommunications policy; and

(13) two members of the house of representatives, including one member from the majority party and one member from the second largest political party in the house of representatives, one of whom is from the metropolitan area and one from outside the metropolitan area, appointed by the chair of the house committee with primary jurisdiction over telecommunications policy.

For purposes of this paragraph, "metropolitan area" means the counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington.

(c) The governor shall designate one of the citizen-at-large members to serve as chair of the task force. The Department of Commerce shall provide logistical and administrative support to the task force.

(d) By November 1, 2009, the task force shall submit a report to the governor and the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house committees with primary jurisdiction over telecommunications policy containing recommendations for the development of a comprehensive statewide broadband deployment plan. The report must include, at a minimum:

(1) identification of the level of broadband service, including connection speeds for sending and receiving data, that is reasonably needed by all citizens by 2015;

(2) a description of the policies and actions necessary to achieve the goal, including the elimination of obstacles to investment and the identification of areas in the state that currently lack infrastructure necessary to support broadband service;

(3) a description of the opportunities for the public and private sectors to cooperate to achieve the goal;

(4) an evaluation of strategies, financing methods, and financial incentives used in other states and countries to support the deployment of high speed broadband;

(5) an evaluation and recommendation of the security, vulnerability, and redundancy actions necessary to ensure the reliability of high-speed broadband;

(6) an estimate of the costs of reaching the broadband goal, including capital costs, and identification of who will bear those costs;

3.1 (7) a description of economic development opportunities made possible by the wide
3.2 dissemination of high-speed broadband; and

3.3 (8) an evaluation of how access to high-speed broadband can benefit educational
3.4 institutions, healthcare institutions, community-based organizations, and government
3.5 institutions.

3.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.