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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 2123

03/26/2015 Authored by McDonald and Barrett

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Job Growth and Energy Affordability Policy and Finance

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to telecommunications; appropriating money for a broadband  
1.3 infrastructure economic development demonstration project.

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

1.5 Section 1. **BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**  
1.6 **DEMONSTRATION PROJECT; APPROPRIATION.**

1.7 (a) \$2,400,000 is appropriated in fiscal year 2016 from the border-to-border  
1.8 broadband infrastructure fund under Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.396, to the  
1.9 commissioner of employment and economic development to award a grant to a city to  
1.10 pay for broadband infrastructure and other eligible expenses, as identified in Minnesota  
1.11 Statutes, section 116J.395, subdivision 2, for a wire-line broadband infrastructure  
1.12 demonstration project that is part of a public-private partnership.

1.13 (b) In order to be awarded the grant under paragraph (a), a city must demonstrate:

1.14 (1) funding from nonstate sources that matches the amount appropriated in  
1.15 paragraph (a);

1.16 (2) broadband service outages of 12 hours or more in the area within its jurisdiction;

1.17 (3) a decline in the number of businesses in the area within its jurisdiction, as a result  
1.18 of the lack of adequate broadband service; and

1.19 (4) an agreement that the city will own the broadband infrastructure as part of the  
1.20 public-private partnership.

1.21 (c) The commissioner of employment and economic development must award the  
1.22 grant under this section before September 1, 2015.

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