

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 4018
Version:	FULLPCS1
Request Number:	11185
Author:	Mr. Speaker
Date:	2/24/2020
Impact:	

Research Analysis

The Proposed Committee Substitute for HB 4018 creates the Rural Broadband Expansion Council, which is directed to conduct a study of rural broadband access in Oklahoma. The study will divide the state into separate geographic areas based on existing broadband capability, cost of service, estimated costs for improving access, likelihood of changes in access in the future, and other information as deemed relevant by the council. The council is further directed to use the geographic areas it establishes to develop policy recommendations conducive to establishing or improving rural broadband access.

Prepared By: Sean Webster

Fiscal Analysis

The measure creates the Rural Broadband Expansion Council, consisting of twelve (12) persons, to conduct a study of rural broadband access in the state. Included in the study will be the determination of costs for improving rural broadband access.

Staff assistance will be provided by the Department of Commerce, duties which will include incorporation of information into a mapping system depicting resources, coverage, connectivity and other features as determined by the council. Additionally, the council will study incentive that may be employed – federal funds, tribal funds, donated funding from foundations, endowments, state or local tax incentives or financing incentives or policies at all levels of government. Commerce will create a dedicated webpage to allow public access to the actions and recommendations of the council.

Prepared By: Mark Tygret

Other Considerations

None.