

**BILL SUMMARY**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 58<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB 2090</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>Committee Substitute</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>7732</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. McCall</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>3/9/2021</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>See Analysis Below</b>

**Research Analysis**

HB 2090 expands the Rural Broadband Expansion Council from 14 to 16 members. One of the additional members would represent a wireless Internet service provider and be appointed by the Speaker of the House. The other additional member would represent a Native American tribe and be appointed by the Senate President Pro Temp.

The measure directs the council to develop a set of broadband incentive award guidelines as a recommendation to the Legislature. The guidelines would consider a weighted approach, based on an area's need for services, existing broadband assets, whether existing resources have been allocated to broadband in the area, a preference for partnerships with other governmental or private entities, and the capacity of the provider to maintain assets for an extended period of time.

The bill also includes an updated definition for *high speed Internet access service* and a definition for *broadband* reflecting an increase in required downstream and upstream speeds.

Prepared By: Sean Webster

**Fiscal Analysis**

HB 2090 makes some change to the Rural Broadband Expansion Council. According to officials at the Department of Commerce, this measure alone does not create a fiscal impact for the Department or the Council. But, this measure combined with several other measures being heard by the 1st Session of the 58th Legislature, that address broadband regulation and use, the Department does believe it will need to hire one additional Full Time Employee to handle the work. The Department believes salary and benefits should be about \$85,000.

Prepared By: Mariah Searock

**Other Considerations**

None.