

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2090
Version:	FULLPCS1
Request Number:	7597
Author:	Rep. McCall
Date:	2/24/2021
Impact:	\$0

Research Analysis

The Proposed Committee Substitute for 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 does not create a fiscal impact for the Department or the Council. Therefore, there should be no fiscal impact for the State.

Prepared By: Mariah Searock

Other Considerations

None.