

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 3835
Version:	FA2
Request Number:	11161
Author:	Rep. Martinez
Date:	3/22/2022
Impact:	Unknown

Research Analysis

The second floor substitute for HB3835 creates the Facilitating Internet Broadband Rural Expansion (FIBRE) Act. The measure:

- Prohibits cross subsidization between rural electric co-ops' retail electricity services and retail broadband services;
- Prohibits co-ops from charging costs related to electric services to retail broadband customers, and vice versa;
- Requires co-ops to ensure that rates and fees charged for attachments to utility poles are nondiscriminatory;
- Requires co-ops and communications service providers to engage in good-faith negotiations to determine a fair pole attachment rate, and provides a formula for determining rates if the parties cannot agree.

Prepared By: Emily Byrne

Fiscal Analysis

The language in this measure address the enforcement of the program, giving enforcement to the courts, which does help lower the fiscal impact for the Corporation Commission.

The Commission still believes there will some fiscal impact for regulation of the pole attachments.

There may be some revenue and fiscal impact for the courts from an increased number of cases filed.

Prepared By: Mariah Searock

Other Considerations

None.

