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February 16, 2023

AS AMENDED

SENATE BILL NO. 848

By: Paxton

[Oklahoma Broadband Expansion Act - Oklahoma
Broadband Office - requirements - assistance request
- extension -

emergency]

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 229, O.S.L.
2022 (74 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 9204), is amended to read as
follows:

Section 9204. A. There is hereby created until June 30, 2028, the Oklahoma Broadband Office, to serve as the state's sole administrator of the functions, powers, and duties assigned to the Office in this act or under law. Effective June 30, 2028, the Office shall terminate and all personnel positions shall be abolished. The Office shall utilize the year prior to the termination date for the purpose of ceasing the Office's affairs.

B. The Office shall receive administrative assistance from the Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES), which shall provide, through existing OMES resources, administrative assistance upon request in writing or electronic correspondence from the

1 Office's Executive Director, ~~within a reasonable time to allow the~~
2 ~~performance of the Office's duties or.~~ OMES shall provide
3 assistance in the manner requested within thirty (30) days of
4 determination by the Agency that the request is able to be
5 fulfilled. If for any reason the request cannot be fulfilled within
6 thirty (30) days, the Office and OMES shall enter into a written
7 agreement expressing an agreed upon timeline for fulfilling the
8 needs of the Office. In the event that the request cannot be
9 fulfilled, OMES shall respond in writing within ten (10) days of the
10 request providing ~~reasons why the request cannot be fulfilled the~~
11 reasoning for denial. If the request cannot be fulfilled utilizing
12 existing resources, OMES may charge the Office for the actual cost
13 to fulfill the request.

14 C. The Office shall be governed by the Broadband Governing
15 Board, created pursuant to Section 3 of this act.

16 D. The Office shall be advised by the Broadband Expansion
17 Council, created pursuant to Section 4 of this act.

18 E. The Office shall have an Executive Director who shall
19 oversee the operations of the Office including, but not limited to:

20 1. Overseeing the creation, maintenance, and completion of the
21 Statewide Broadband Plan;

22 2. Communicating the state's progress in achieving the goals
23 and implementation of the Statewide Broadband Plan;

1 3. The creation, housing, and updating of a statewide broadband
2 services map;

3 4. Overseeing of grant applications and awards for connectivity
4 and affordability projects;

5 5. Making recommendations to the Board regarding procedural and
6 administrative rules for the Office; and

7 6. Employment and management of Office staff subject to the
8 limitations and requirements of this act and subject to the
9 limitations and requirements of the Broadband Governing Board.

10 F. The Executive Director shall regularly report to the Council
11 and the Board and shall submit an annual report to the Office of the
12 Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Office of
13 the President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma State Senate.

14 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
15 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
16 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
17 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

18 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS
19 February 16, 2023 - DO PASS AS AMENDED
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