



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6780

January Session, 2007

* HB06780ET 030907 *

AN ACT CONCERNING WIDESPREAD BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 7-536 of the
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
3 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2007*):

4 (4) "Local capital improvement project" means a municipal capital
5 expenditure project for any of the following purposes: (A) Road
6 construction, renovation, repair or resurfacing, (B) sidewalk and
7 pavement improvements, (C) construction, renovation, enlargement or
8 repair of sewage treatment plants and sanitary or storm, water or
9 sewer lines, including separation of lines, (D) public building
10 construction other than schools, including renovation, repair, code
11 compliance, energy conservation and fire safety projects, (E)
12 construction, renovation, enlargement or repair of dams, bridges and
13 flood control projects, (F) construction, renovation, enlargement or
14 repair of water treatment or filtration plants and water mains, (G)
15 construction, renovation or enlargement of solid waste facilities, (H)
16 improvements to public parks, (I) the preparation and revision of local
17 capital improvement plans projected for a period of not less than five
18 years and so prepared as to show the general description, need and
19 estimated cost of each individual capital improvement, (J)

20 improvements to emergency communications systems, (K) public
21 housing projects, including renovations and improvements and energy
22 conservation and the development of additional housing, (L)
23 renovations to or construction of veterans' memorial monuments, (M)
24 thermal imaging systems, (N) bulky waste and landfill projects, (O) the
25 preparation and revision of municipal plans of conservation and
26 development adopted pursuant to section 8-23, provided such plans
27 are endorsed by the legislative body of the municipality not more than
28 one hundred eighty days after adoption by the commission, (P)
29 acquisition of automatic external defibrillators, [and] (Q) floodplain
30 management and hazard mitigation activities. "Local capital
31 improvement project" means only capital expenditures and includes
32 repairs incident to reconstruction and renovation but does not include
33 ordinary repairs and maintenance of an ongoing nature and
34 "floodplain management" and "hazard mitigation" shall have the same
35 meaning as in section 25-68j, and (R) activities related to the planning
36 of a municipal broadband network, provided the speed of the network
37 will be not less than three hundred eighty-four thousand bits per
38 second.

39 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2007*) (a) There shall be a Broadband
40 Internet Coordinating Council, which shall include representatives
41 from both the private and public sectors. The council shall consist of
42 nine members, five of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, two
43 of whom shall be appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate
44 and two of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the House of
45 Representatives. Of the five members appointed by the Governor,
46 three shall have specific expertise in the area of telecommunications.
47 Members of the council shall serve without compensation, except for
48 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.
49 Members shall serve on the council for terms of two years each and no
50 member shall serve for more than two consecutive terms. The
51 chairperson of the Public Utilities Control Authority, or the
52 chairperson's designee, and the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
53 Management, or the secretary's designee, shall be ex-officio members

54 of the council without vote and shall attend its meetings. Any member
55 who fails to attend three consecutive meetings or fifty per cent of all
56 meetings during any calendar year shall be deemed to have resigned.
57 The council shall elect a chairperson and a vice-chairperson to act in
58 the chairperson's absence.

59 (b) The council shall meet at least quarterly, commencing on or
60 before September 1, 2008. A majority of the members in office shall
61 constitute a quorum.

62 (c) The duties of the council shall be to: (1) Monitor trends and
63 developments in the state's efforts to develop a state-wide world-class
64 communications infrastructure; and (2) issue any reports it deems
65 necessary to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
66 having cognizance of matters relating to technology.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2007</i>	7-536(a)(4)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	New section

ET *Joint Favorable Subst.*