

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS30407 / H0178

The state has identified broadband as a critical need for the rural parts of our state. The Idaho Broadband Strategic Plan set a goal to connect 100% of Idaho's businesses and homes to high-speed broadband by 2027. Meeting that goal will require a massive investment of federal and state dollars to deploy broadband, and that deployment needs to be as efficient as possible. This bill amends chapter 6, Title 63, Idaho Code by exempting from property tax equipment and infrastructure used in deployment of high-speed broadband.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill will not impact the state general fund. Investments in broadband are largely being funded with federal money and have not been made yet. Because those investments will be made after this bill takes effect, there is no impact to local funds for the bulk of the investments. There may be some decrease to local funds for existing broadband infrastructure that would be exempt from taxation, but the extent of the impact is unknown.

Contact:

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).