

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 58

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1  
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND REQUESTING THAT THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT  
3 OF COMMERCE INVESTIGATE IMPROVING BROADBAND SERVICE IN IDAHO.

4 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

5 WHEREAS, broadband service is a vital necessity for effective commerce  
6 in the twenty-first century; and

7 WHEREAS, the State of Idaho has not had consistent leadership on broad-  
8 band mapping, promotion or development; and

9 WHEREAS, Idaho businesses have repeatedly told the Legislature that  
10 telecommunication infrastructure is an important consideration in their  
11 decisions to expand or change location; and

12 WHEREAS, communities in Idaho are dependent on broadband for health  
13 care, public safety, education and commerce; and

14 WHEREAS, the ability to "connect" is especially vital to smaller busi-  
15 nesses in our rural communities; and

16 WHEREAS, average broadband speed in Idaho is well below the recommended  
17 25 megabits-per-second level; and

18 WHEREAS, Idaho is ranked 47th among the states in overall connectivity,  
19 which is a detriment to attracting business.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-  
21 sion of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and  
22 the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature requests that the Idaho  
23 Department of Commerce investigate developing the capacity to coordinate  
24 and lead broadband development in Idaho.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that the Idaho De-  
26 partment of Commerce report its progress to the First Regular Session of the  
27 Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature.