

1 **SENATE FLOOR VERSION**

2 March 31, 2021

3 ENGROSSED HOUSE
4 BILL NO. 1124

By: Phillips and Bell of the
House

5 and

6 Leewright and Bergstrom of
7 the Senate

8
9 An Act relating to rural broadband; requiring the
10 Oklahoma Department of Commerce promulgate rules and
11 procedures for establishment of the State Broadband
12 Deployment Grant Program; requiring development of
13 competitive grant program to award funding to expand
14 broadband access; requiring Department to look at
15 other states' best practices to facilitate framework
16 of Program; creating the State Broadband Deployment
17 Grant Program Revolving Fund; providing for
18 codification; and providing an effective date.

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

20 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
21 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 139.204 of Title 17, unless
22 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

23 A. The Oklahoma Department of Commerce with the participation
24 and advice of the Rural Broadband Expansion Council shall promulgate
rules and procedures for the establishment of the State Broadband
Deployment Grant Program. The State Broadband Deployment Grant
Program shall include development of a competitive grant program to

1 award funding to applicants seeking to expand access to broadband
2 Internet service in this state. The Department and Council shall
3 look at best practices in other states to help facilitate the
4 framework of the Program.

5 B. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving
6 fund for the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to be designated the
7 "State Broadband Deployment Grant Program Fund". The fund shall be
8 a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall
9 consist of all monies designated for deposit to said fund. All
10 monies accruing to the credit of said fund are hereby appropriated
11 and may be budgeted and shall be expended by the Department for the
12 purpose of awarding grants by and through the Rural Broadband
13 Expansion Council, pursuant to subsection A of this section, to
14 applicants seeking to expand access to broadband Internet service in
15 this state.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

17 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
18 March 31, 2021 - DO PASS
19
20
21
22
23
24