

OKLAHOMA STATE SENATE
CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE REPORT

May 19, 2023

Mr. President:

Mr. Speaker:

The Conference Committee, to which was referred

SB849

By: Paxton of the Senate and Caldwell (Trey) of the House


Title: Broadband Expansion Act; modifying reporting requirements for the coverage map data; requirements; amending disclosures. Effective date. Emergency.

together with Engrossed House Amendments thereto, beg leave to report that we have had the same under consideration and herewith return the same with the following recommendations:

1. That the House recede from all Amendments.
2. That the attached Conference Committee Substitute (Request #2237) be adopted.

Respectfully submitted,

SENATE CONFEREES:




 Paxton



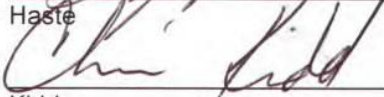
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HOUSE CONFEREES:

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

3 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED

5 SENATE BILL NO. 849

6 By: Paxton of the Senate

7 and

8 Caldwell (Trey) of the
9 House

10 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to the Oklahoma Broadband Expansion
12 Act; amending Section 5, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2022 (74
13 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 9204), which relates to the
14 Oklahoma Broadband Office; modifying requirements for
15 assistance provided to the Office by certain agency;
16 requiring fulfillment of certain assistance request
17 by certain date; providing for extension; providing
18 for hiring of certain personnel; updating statutory
19 references; updating statutory language; and
20 declaring an emergency.

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

22 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 5, Chapter 229, O.S.L.
23 2022 (74 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 9204), is amended to read as
24 follows:

25 Section 9204. A. There is hereby created until June 30, 2028,
26 the Oklahoma Broadband Office, to serve as the state's sole
27 administrator of the functions, powers, and duties assigned to the
28 Office in ~~this act~~ the Oklahoma Broadband Expansion Act or under

1 law. Effective June 30, 2028, the Office shall terminate and all
2 personnel positions shall be abolished. The Office shall utilize
3 the year prior to the termination date for the purpose of ceasing
4 the Office's affairs.

5 B. The Office shall receive administrative assistance from the
6 Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES), which shall
7 provide, through existing OMES resources, administrative assistance
8 upon request in writing or electronic correspondence from the
9 Office's Executive Director, ~~within a reasonable time to allow the~~
10 ~~performance of the Office's duties or.~~ OMES shall provide
11 assistance in the manner requested within thirty (30) days of
12 determination by the Agency that the request is able to be
13 fulfilled. If for any reason the request cannot be fulfilled within
14 thirty (30) days, the Office and OMES shall enter into a written
15 agreement expressing an agreed upon timeline for fulfilling the
16 needs of the Office. In the event that the request cannot be
17 fulfilled, OMES shall respond in writing within ten (10) days of the
18 request providing ~~reasons why the request cannot be fulfilled the~~
19 reasoning for denial. If the request cannot be fulfilled utilizing
20 existing resources, OMES may charge the Office for the actual cost
21 to fulfill the request.

22 C. The Office shall be governed by the Broadband Governing
23 Board, created pursuant to Section ~~3~~ 9202 of this ~~act~~ title.

24

1 D. The Office shall be advised by the Broadband Expansion
2 Council, created pursuant to Section 4 9203 of this ~~act~~ title.

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

5 1. Overseeing the creation, maintenance, and completion of the
6 Statewide Broadband Plan;

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

9 3. The creation, housing, and updating of a statewide broadband
10 services map;

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

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

15 6. Employment and management of Office staff subject to the
16 limitations and requirements of ~~this act~~ the Oklahoma Broadband
17 Expansion Act and subject to the limitations and requirements of the
18 Broadband Governing Board.

19 F. The Executive Director shall regularly report to the Council
20 and the Board and shall submit an annual report to the Office of the
21 Speaker of the ~~Oklahoma~~ House of Representatives and the Office of
22 the President Pro Tempore of the ~~Oklahoma State~~ Senate.

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1 G. The Office may hire legal counsel as it is deemed necessary
2 by the hiring entity. The Office shall be subject to the provisions
3 of Section 20i of this title.

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

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