

HOUSE BILL No. 2701

By Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications

2-7

1 AN ACT concerning broadband; creating the statewide broadband
2 expansion task force; relating to the expansion of broadband services.

3
4 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

5 Section 1. (a) There is hereby established the statewide broadband
6 expansion task force. The task force shall be composed of ~~23~~ {17} voting
7 members, as follows:

8 (1) ~~Four~~ {Three} members of the house of representatives appointed
9 by the speaker of the house of representatives with ~~one member~~ {of such
10 **appointees**} from the house standing committee on energy, utilities and
11 telecommunications ~~and one member from the house standing committee~~
12 ~~on commerce;~~

13 (2) ~~one member~~ {two members} of the house of representatives
14 appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;

15 (3) two members of the senate appointed by the president of the
16 senate with ~~one member~~ {of such appointees} from the senate standing
17 committee on utilities ~~and one member from the standing committee on~~
18 ~~commerce;~~

19 (4) one member of the senate appointed by the minority leader of the
20 senate;

21 (5) one member appointed by the Kansas association of counties;

22 (6) one member appointed by the Kansas league of municipalities;

23 (7) ~~two members~~ {one member} appointed by the Kansas rural
24 independent telephone coalition, ~~with one member representing a rural~~
25 ~~service area and one member representing an urban service area;~~

26 (8) ~~two members~~ {one member} from the Kansas cable
27 telecommunications association, ~~with one member representing a rural~~
28 ~~service area and one member representing an urban service area;~~

29 (9) one member appointed by the ~~cellular~~ {wireless}
30 telecommunications industry association;

31 (10) one member representing an electing carrier;

32 (11) one member representing an incumbent local exchange carrier
33 that is a recipient of KUSF funds and serves a rural service area;

34 (12) one member appointed by the Kansas ~~chamber of commerce;~~

1 ~~(13) one member appointed by the Kansas farm bureau {electric~~
2 **cooperatives}**;

3 ~~(14) one member appointed by the national federation of independent~~
4 **business**;

5 ~~(15) one member at-large appointed by the governor;~~

6 ~~(16){(13)} two members {one member}~~ appointed by the state
7 independent telephone association; and

8 ~~(17){(14)}~~ the following ex-officio members, who all shall be non-
9 voting members:

10 (A) The secretary of ~~commeree~~ **{transportation}** or the secretary's
11 designee;

12 (B) the commissioner of education or the commissioner's designee;
13 **and**

14 (C) the chairperson of the state corporation commission, or the
15 chairperson's designee;}

16 **{(D) one member appointed by the the Kansas hospital**
17 **association;**

18 **(E) one member appointed by the co-chairpersons of the task**
19 **force representing a rural competitive local exchange carrier that does**
20 **not receive support from the Kansas universal service fund; and**

21 **(F) one member at-large appointed by the governor}.**

22 (b) Of the legislative members appointed by the speaker of the house
23 of representatives and the president of the senate, the speaker of the house
24 of representatives shall appoint one such member from the house of
25 representatives to serve as co-chairperson of the task force and the
26 president shall appoint one such member from the senate to serve as co-
27 chairperson of the task force.

28 (c) Members shall be appointed to the task force not later than 45
29 days from the effective date of this section. Members of the task force
30 ~~must be residents of~~ **reside or work in** Kansas and shall consist of
31 members from all four congressional districts in Kansas.

32 (d) The statewide broadband expansion task force may meet in an
33 open meeting at any time upon the call of either co-chairperson of the task
34 force. ~~The task force shall meet three to six times.~~ A majority of the voting
35 members of the statewide broadband expansion task force constitute a
36 quorum. Any action by the task force shall be by motion adopted by a
37 majority of the voting members present when there is a quorum. Any
38 vacancy on the statewide broadband expansion task force shall be filled by
39 appointment in the manner prescribed in this section for the original
40 appointment.

41 (e) The mission of the statewide broadband expansion task force shall
42 be as follows:

43 (1) Work collaboratively to evaluate the broadband needs of Kansas

1 citizens, businesses, industries, institutions and organizations;

2 (2) consider any recent actions by the federal communications
3 commission relating to broadband services including, but not limited to,
4 the 2018 broadband deployment report, recommendations of the
5 broadband deployment advisory committee and any actions to implement
6 broadband initiatives using the connect America fund phase II or the
7 remote areas fund;

8 (3) identify opportunities and potential funding sources to:

9 (A) Expand broadband infrastructure and increase statewide access to
10 broadband services;

11 (B) remove barriers that may hinder deployment of broadband
12 infrastructure or access to broadband services; and

13 (C) enable the creation and deployment of new advanced
14 communication technologies;

15 (4) prioritize the expansion of broadband services first to unserved
16 areas of the state and then to underserved areas of the state; and

17 (5) make and submit a report to the legislature concerning all such
18 work and recommendations of the task force. The task force report shall be
19 submitted to the legislature on or before January 31, 2019.

20 (f) The staff of the office of revisor of statutes, the legislative research
21 department and the division of legislative administrative services shall
22 provide assistance as may be requested by the statewide broadband
23 expansion task force.

24 (g) Legislative members of the statewide broadband expansion task
25 force attending meetings authorized by the task force shall be paid
26 amounts provided in K.S.A. 75-3223(e), and amendments thereto. Non-
27 legislative members of the statewide broadband expansion task force may
28 be reimbursed by their appointing authority.

29 (h) The provisions of this section shall expire on June 30, 2019.

30 Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
31 publication in the ~~statute book~~ {**Kansas register**}.