

# SENATE BILL No. 177

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 5-28-28.5.

**Synopsis:** Administration of the broadband ready program. Provides that the office of community and rural affairs, rather than the Indiana economic development corporation, administers the broadband ready communities development center.

**Effective:** July 1, 2020.

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January 6, 2020, read first time and referred to Committee on Utilities.

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Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# SENATE BILL No. 177

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning utilities.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 5-28-28.5-5, AS ADDED BY P.L.18-2015,  
2 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 5. The broadband ready communities  
4 development center is established within the ~~corporation~~ **office of**  
5 **community and rural affairs**. The center has the following duties:  
6 (1) Providing comprehensive information concerning permits  
7 required for projects and related business activities in Indiana and  
8 making this information available to any person.  
9 (2) Working with other state and local government offices,  
10 departments, and administrative entities to encourage timely and  
11 efficient issuance of permits and resolution of related issues.  
12 (3) Encouraging local and federal government agencies to  
13 coordinate activities related to approving applications and issuing  
14 permits for projects.  
15 SECTION 2. IC 5-28-28.5-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.33-2017,  
16 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
17 JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 6. (a) In addition to the duties set forth in section



- 1 5 of this chapter, the center shall create a program to certify a unit as  
2 a broadband ready community.
- 3 (b) A unit may apply for certification as a broadband ready  
4 community. The application must be in a form and manner prescribed  
5 by the ~~corporation~~ **office of community and rural affairs**. The  
6 ~~corporation~~ **office of community and rural affairs** shall approve an  
7 application and certify a unit as a broadband ready community if the  
8 ~~corporation~~ **office of community and rural affairs** determines that the  
9 unit has:
- 10 (1) established a permit procedure that complies with section 7 of  
11 this chapter;
- 12 (2) established a broadband adoption procedure that complies  
13 with section 8 of this chapter; and
- 14 (3) complied with any other requirements of the ~~corporation~~  
15 **office of community and rural affairs**.

