

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETIETH SESSION**

S.F. No. 980

(SENATE AUTHORS: WESTROM, Johnson, Utke, Weber and Lang)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/15/2017		Introduction and first reading Referred to Jobs and Economic Growth Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to economic development; broadband; modifying the border-to-border

1.3 broadband grant program; appropriating money; amending Minnesota Statutes

1.4 2016, sections 116J.395, subdivision 7; 116J.398.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 116J.395, subdivision 7, is amended to read:

1.7 Subd. 7. **Limitation.** (a) No grant awarded under this section may fund more than 50

1.8 percent of the total cost of a project in an underserved area.

1.9 (b) Grants awarded for projects in unserved areas require a 25 percent match.

1.10 (c) Grants awarded to a single project under this section must not exceed \$5,000,000,

1.11 \$3,000,000.

1.12 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2016, section 116J.398, is amended to read:

1.13 **116J.398 BROADBAND PREVAILING WAGE EXEMPTION.**

1.14 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, section 116J.871 does not apply to:

1.15 (1) a project receiving a grant under section 116J.395 for the construction, installation,

1.16 remodeling, and repair of last-mile infrastructure, as defined under section 116J.394,

1.17 paragraph (e); or

1.18 (2) to any project or portion of a project in unserved areas.

2.1 Sec. 3. **BORDER-TO-BORDER BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT GRANT**
2.2 **PROGRAM; APPROPRIATION.**

2.3 \$35,000,000 in fiscal year 2018 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner
2.4 of employment and economic development for deposit in the border-to-border broadband
2.5 fund account under Minnesota Statutes, section 116J.396, to award grants under that section.
2.6 Of this appropriation, no more than \$5,000,000 may be used for grants to underserved areas.
2.7 This is a onetime appropriation.