

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 865

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BROWN.

Read 1st time January 13, 2020, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

4900S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 620.2456, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to grants to expand access to broadband internet service in unserved and underserved areas of the state.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 620.2456, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 620.2456, to read as follows:

620.2456. 1. The department of economic development shall not award any grant to an otherwise eligible grant applicant where funding from the Connect America Fund has been awarded, where high-cost support from the federal Universal Service Fund has been received by rate of return carriers, or where any other federal funding has been awarded which did not require any matching-fund component, for any portion of the proposed project area, nor shall any grant money be used to serve any retail end user that already has access to wireline or fixed wireless broadband internet service of speeds of at least twenty-five megabits per-second download and three megabits per-second upload.

2. No grant awarded under sections 620.2450 to 620.2458, when combined with any federal, state, or local funds, shall fund more than fifty percent of the total cost of a project.

3. No single project shall be awarded grants under sections 620.2450 to 620.2458 whose cumulative total exceeds five million dollars.

4. The department of economic development shall endeavor to award grants under sections 620.2450 to 620.2458 to qualified applicants in all regions of the state.

5. An award granted under sections 620.2450 to 620.2458 shall not:

(1) Require an open access network;

20 (2) Impose rates, terms, and conditions that differ from what a provider
21 offers in other areas of its service area;

22 (3) Impose any rate, service, or any other type of regulation beyond speed
23 requirements set forth in section 620.2451; or

24 (4) Impose an unreasonable time constraint on the time to build the
25 service.

26 **6. If a grant recipient fails to establish the speed requirements**
27 **set forth in section 620.2451, then the grant recipient shall return all**
28 **grant moneys to the department.**

Unofficial ✓

Bill

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