

# HOUSE BILL NO. 4066

February 02, 2023, Introduced by Reps. Coleman, Scott, Rheingans, Arbit, Byrnes, Liberati, Snyder, Brixie, Puri, McFall, Hill and Whitsett and referred to the Committee on Energy, Communications, and Technology.

A bill to create the Michigan high-speed internet office; to prescribe the powers and duties of the Michigan high-speed internet office; to allow the provision of grants and other financial and technical assistance related to broadband and digital infrastructure; and to provide the powers and duties of certain state officers and entities.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 1. This act may be cited as the "Michigan high-speed  
2 internet office act".

3           Sec. 2. As used in this act:

1 (a) "Broadband service" means a service, not including a  
2 satellite service, capable of delivering high-speed internet access  
3 that meets all of the following:

4 (i) Provides symmetrical upload and download speeds.

5 (ii) Provides low latency.

6 (iii) Provides reliable internet bandwidth that is capable of  
7 meeting the education, economic, and consumer needs of residents of  
8 this state.

9 (b) "Broadband service provider" means an entity that provides  
10 broadband service in this state.

11 (c) "Department" means the department of labor and economic  
12 opportunity.

13 (d) "Director" means the director of the Michigan high-speed  
14 internet office.

15 (e) "Modern broadband and digital infrastructure" means the  
16 technology and associated equipment used to provide broadband  
17 service.

18 (f) "Office" means the Michigan high-speed internet office  
19 created in section 3.

20 Sec. 3. (1) The Michigan high-speed internet office is created  
21 within the department.

22 (2) The governor shall appoint a director of the Michigan  
23 high-speed internet office. The individual appointed as the  
24 director must be qualified by training and experience to perform  
25 the duties and exercise the powers of the office and the director.

26 Sec. 5. The director shall establish procedures for the office  
27 for budgeting, expending money, and employing personnel according  
28 to the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1101 to  
29 18.1594.

1           Sec. 7. The office may, upon appropriation, award grants or  
2 provide other financial and technical assistance to carry out the  
3 purposes of this act.

4           Sec. 9. The office shall do all of the following:

5           (a) Implement modern broadband and digital infrastructure  
6 duties assigned to the office and coordinate with other state  
7 departments responsible for modern broadband and digital  
8 infrastructure matters.

9           (b) Facilitate collaboration among public and private entities  
10 to encourage partnerships, regional coordination, and streamlined  
11 policies to increase modern broadband and digital infrastructure.

12           (c) Identify best practices and external resources to support  
13 modern broadband and digital infrastructure in this state.

14           (d) Provide capacity building and digital literacy resources  
15 to the public and entities seeking to expand broadband service and  
16 adoption.

17           (e) Promote and implement policies that utilize modern  
18 broadband and digital infrastructure to do any of the following:

19           (i) Revitalize neighborhoods and communities.

20           (ii) Support economic development opportunities.

21           (iii) Increase hiring and retention of skilled workers that  
22 support modern broadband and digital infrastructure in this state.

23           (iv) Integrate the deployment of modern broadband and digital  
24 infrastructure through existing infrastructure and economic  
25 development programs.

26           (f) Collect and analyze data to accurately determine the  
27 availability of broadband service, including the development of  
28 methods that accurately identify parcel level wholesale and retail  
29 broadband infrastructure availability and adoption throughout this

1 state.

2 (g) Issue reports on the status of broadband service market  
3 competition in different regions throughout this state that  
4 distinguish between the type and quality of broadband service  
5 provided and evaluate and provide recommendations on the wholesale  
6 and retail cost of broadband service.

7 (h) Serve as a point of contact between the public and  
8 broadband service providers to improve broadband service access,  
9 adoption, and transparency.