WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 2011

ENROLLED

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NOF STATE

Senate Bill No. 507

(By Senators Kessler (Acting President), Unger, Browning, Foster, Plymale, Stollings, Klempa and Williams)

[Passed February 25, 2011; in effect 90 days from passage.]



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GEFTAL CONTROL BRAN STATES A POLY STATE

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Senate Bill No. 507

(By Senators Kessler (Acting President), Unger, Browning, Foster, Plymale, Stollings, Klempa and Williams)

[Passed February 25, 2011; in effect 90 days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §31-15C-3 and §31-15C-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, all relating to the continuation of the Broadband Deployment Council.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §31-15C-3 and §31-15C-14 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 15C. Broadband Deployment.

§31-15C-3. Broadband Deployment Council established; members of council; administrative support.

(a) The Broadband Deployment Council is continued. The
 council is a governmental instrumentality of the state. The
 exercise by the council of the powers conferred by this
 article and the carrying out of its purpose and duties are
 considered and held to be, and are hereby determined to be,
 essential governmental functions and for a public purpose.
 The council is created under the Department of Commerce
 for administrative, personnel and technical support services
 only.

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(b) The council shall consist of eleven voting members,designated as follows:

12 (1) The Governor or his or her designee;

13 (2) The Secretary of Commerce or his or her designee;

14 (3) The Secretary of Administration or his or her designee;

15 (4) The Director of Homeland Security and Emergency16 Management or his or her designee; and

(5) Seven public members that serve at the will andpleasure of the Governor and are appointed by the Governorwith the advice and consent of the Senate, as follows:

20 (i) One member representing employees of communications
21 and cable providers who is a member or representative of a
22 union representing communications workers;

23 (ii) One member representing telecommunications provid-24 ers who provide broadband services in this state;

(iii) One member representing cable operators who providebroadband services in this state;

27 (iv) One member representing broadband equipment or28 device manufacturers;

29 (v) One member representing higher education or second-30 ary education; and

(vi) Two members representing the general public who are
residents of the state, one of whom shall represent rural
communities, and who may not reside in the same congressional district.

35 (6) In addition to the eleven voting members of the council,

36 the President of the Senate shall name two senators from the

37 West Virginia Senate and the Speaker of the House shall

38 name two delegates from the West Virginia House of Dele-

39 gates, each to serve in the capacity of an ex officio, nonvot-

40 ing advisory member of the council.

(c) The Secretary of Commerce or his or her designee shall
chair the council and appoint one of the other council
members to serve as vice chair. In the absence of the Secretary of Commerce or his or her designee, the vice chair shall
serve as chair. The council shall appoint a secretary-treasurer who need not be a member of the council and
who, among other tasks or functions designated by the
council, shall keep records of its proceedings.

49 (d) The council may appoint committees or subcommittees
50 to investigate and make recommendations to the full council.
51 Members of these committees or subcommittees need not be
52 members of the council.

(e) Six voting members of the council constitutes a quorum
and the affirmative vote of at least the majority of those
members present is necessary for any action taken by vote of
the council.

57(f) The council is part-time. Public members appointed by 58 the Governor may pursue and engage in another business or occupation or gainful employment. Any person employed by, 59 60 owning an interest in or otherwise associated with a broad-61 band deployment project, project sponsor or project partici-62 pant may serve as a council member and is not disgualified 63 from serving as a council member because of a conflict of 64 interest prohibited under section five, article two, chapter 65 six-b of this code and is not subject to prosecution for 66 violation of said section when the violation is created solely 67 as a result of his or her relationship with the broadband 68 deployment project, project sponsor or project participant so 69 long as the member recuses himself or herself from board participation regarding the conflicting issue in the manner 70 71set forth in legislative rules promulgated by the West 72 Virginia Ethics Commission.

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(g) No member of the council who serves by virtue of his or
her office receives any compensation or reimbursement of
expenses for serving as a member. The public members and
members of any committees or subcommittees are entitled to
be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred for
each day or portion thereof engaged in the discharge of his
or her official duties in a manner consistent with the guidelines of the Travel Management Office of the Department of
Administration.

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§31-15C-14. Expiration of council.

- 1 The council shall continue to exist until December 31,
- 2 2014, unless sooner terminated, continued or reestablished
- 3 pursuant to an act of the Legislature.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

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Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

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of the Senate

. Speaker of the House of Delegates

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