

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011

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SENATE BILL 572
Second Edition Engrossed 6/15/11
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/19/12

Short Title: County Broadband Grants.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 14, 2011

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MAKE STATEWIDE THE AUTHORITY PREVIOUSLY GRANTED TO NASH COUNTY SO AS TO ALLOW COUNTIES TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO PROMOTE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE IN UNSERVED AREAS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TO MAKE OTHER CLARIFYING CHANGES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of S.L. 2011-163 reads as rewritten:

"SECTION 1. A county may provide grants to unaffiliated qualified private providers of high-speed Internet ~~broadband~~-access service, as that term is defined in G.S. 160A-340(4), for the purpose of expanding service in unserved areas for economic development in the county. The grants shall be awarded on a technology neutral basis, shall be open to qualified applicants, and may require matching funds by the private provider. A county shall seek and consider request for proposals from qualified private providers within the county prior to awarding a broadband grant and shall use reasonable means to ensure that potential applicants are made aware of the grant, including, at a minimum, compliance with the notice procedures set forth in G.S. 160A-340.6(c). The county shall use only unrestricted general fund revenue for the grants. For the purposes of this section, a qualified private provider is a private provider of high-speed Internet access service in the State prior to the issuance of the grant proposal."

SECTION 2. Section 3 of S.L. 2011-163 is repealed.

SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law. Section 1 of this act shall not apply to any broadband grant process initiated by Nash County prior to June 1, 2012.



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