

**Adopted
AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO**

Cmte Sub for House Bill No. 1067

BY: Representative Bounds

**Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting
in lieu thereof the following:**

10 **SECTION 1.** This act shall be known and may be cited as the
11 "Mississippi Broadband Accessibility Act".

12 **SECTION 2.** The Legislature finds that the availability of
13 high-speed broadband services, in unserved areas of Mississippi is
14 important for economic development, education, health care, and
15 emergency services in Mississippi, and that grants and other
16 incentives set forth in this act will further those objectives by
17 encouraging new investment in broadband infrastructure.



18 **SECTION 3.** For the purposes of this act, the term "BEAM"
19 means the Office of Broadband Expansion and Accessibility of
20 Mississippi within the Department of
21 Finance and Administration, as created in Section 77-19-5.

22 **SECTION 4.** There is created within the State Treasury the
23 "Mississippi Broadband Accessibility Fund" for the purpose of the
24 expansion and accessibility of broadband in unserved areas. The
25 fund shall consist of all monies designated or appropriated by the
26 State of Mississippi as provided in Section 77-19-7.

27 Disbursements from the fund shall be made by the Department
28 of Finance and Administration upon appropriation or designation by
29 the Legislature in accordance with the provisions of this act.
30 The administration of this program and disbursements for this
31 program shall comply with the provisions as set forth in Sections
32 77-19-3, 77-19-7, 77-19-9, 77-19-11, 77-19-13, 77-19-15 and
33 77-19-17.

34 All unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end
35 of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund. Monies in the fund
36 shall be invested by the State Treasurer in the same manner as
37 monies in the State General Fund and interest earned on the
38 investment of these monies shall be credited to the fund.

39 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
40 and after July 1, 2023.

**Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and
inserting in lieu thereof the following:**



1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI BROADBAND ACCESSIBILITY ACT;
2 TO PROVIDE LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS; TO DEFINE THE TERM "BEAM"; TO
3 CREATE THE MISSISSIPPI BROADBAND ACCESSIBILITY FUND FOR THE
4 PURPOSE OF THE EXPANSION AND ACCESSIBILITY OF BROADBAND IN
5 UNSERVED AREAS; TO PROVIDE THAT DISBURSEMENTS FROM THE FUND SHALL
6 BE MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION UPON
7 APPROPRIATION OR DESIGNATION BY THE LEGISLATURE; AND FOR RELATED
8 PURPOSES.

