

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Section

- 1 **[161.462] Fiber collaboration database.** Requires the Department of Transportation to post on its website the list of upcoming construction projects in its statewide transportation improvement program, so that broadband providers may notify the department of their interest in installing broadband infrastructure along the right-of-way.
- 2 **[237.012] Annual reports.** Specifies that the annual report to the legislature by the commissioner of commerce on the achievement of the state's broadband goals also include recommended policies, incentives, and legislation to hasten the achievement of the goals.
- 3 **[237.85] Office of broadband development.** Establishes the Office of Broadband Development in the Department of Commerce, and lists its purpose, organization, and duties, which include:
 - serving as the state's central planning body for broadband;
 - developing and implementing a state plan to encourage cost-effective broadband access;
 - developing and implementing the state's broadband infrastructure development program, described in section 4; and
 - encouraging public-private partnerships to expand deployment and adoption of broadband services, including recommending funding options and incentives to encourage investment.
- 4 **[237.90] Coordination of broadband infrastructure development.** Directs the Office of

Section

Broadband Development to coordinate, with the Department of Transportation, “dig once” efforts to facilitate the cost-effective deployment of broadband infrastructure.

- 5** **State broadband strategy; report.** Directs the Office of Broadband Development to produce a report recommending state strategies for expanding broadband services in ways that will maximize the economic development impact of the expansion. The report must examine state roles in addition to that of providing financial assistance, focus on impacts on subgroups of broadband users, including mobile broadband users, and analyze strategies that leverage additional private capital. The report is due to the legislature by January 15, 2014.