74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session **MEASURE: SJR 19**
STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY **CARRIER: Sen. Nelson**
Senate Committee on Business, Transportation, and Workforce Development

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:		Be Adopted
Vote:		4 - 0 - 1
	Yeas:	George L., Monnes Anderson, Starr, Metsger
	Nays:	0
	Exc.:	Deckert
Prepared By:		Janet Adkins, Administrator
Meeting Dates:		4/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Declares state policy to promote activities, projects, and businesses that improve Oregon's Internet Protocol network and connectivity to the Internet backbone network and the World Wide Web.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:
- Need for robust telecommunications infrastructure
- Declaration of policy instead of prescriptive statutory requirements
- Bandwidth at half cost in some areas of the country
- Importance of high speed access
- Oregon State University hosting service

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Internet Protocols (IPs) are open-system (nonproprietary) protocols developed and used to communicate data across interconnected networks for common applications. Internet protocols were first developed in the mid-1970s to facilitate communication between dissimilar computer systems at research institutions. Senate Joint Resolution 19 recognizes Oregon's past support of a proactive telecommunications policy and notes the positive influence of state government on infrastructure, particularly broadband access, throughout the state. IP networks are becoming necessary for commerce and communication, and support for private and public sector improvements will be necessary to maintain competitiveness.

Oregon is considered a center in the open source world but it is not a "tier one" hub of the Internet, which increases costs because traffic must be routed outside the state and back. The nearest tier one hub is in Seattle. Combined with some natural advantages in Oregon, such as inexpensive power, additional investments in connectivity will improve quality and price for Internet offerings and bandwidth and help attract and retain Internet-based companies. Senate Joint Resolution 19 aggregates several policy concepts into one policy direction that can be applied across applications.