

**HB 2173**  
**Relating to broadband**

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HB 2173 repeals the sunset date on the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council and creates the Oregon Broadband Office within the Oregon Business Development Department charged with supporting broadband infrastructure deployment, including awarding loans and grants to support broadband service infrastructure projects.

The bill includes Lottery Funds and Other Funds limitation and position authority for the Oregon Business Development Department to establish the broadband service infrastructure grants and loans program. The bill also includes a \$1 Other Funds place marker for loans and grants, and includes a budget note directing the Oregon Business Development Department to submit a plan for the broadband loans and grants program to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means during the 2020 legislative session. After submission of this plan, the Legislature may increase expenditure limitation for disbursement of loans and grants.

This bill is the companion bill to HB 2184 which establishes the Broadband Fund.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends HB 2173 be amended by the -A5 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.