

# House Bill 2173

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Economic Development and Trade)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Creates Oregon Broadband Office within Oregon Business Development Department.

Repeals sunset on Oregon Broadband Advisory Council.

Adds member to council. Broadens duties of council to include recommending public policy and solutions to address state's broadband needs and goals. Directs council to champion statewide access to broadband services.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to broadband; creating new provisions; amending ORS 403.450 and sections 1, 3 and 4,  
3 chapter 782, Oregon Laws 2009; and repealing section 5, chapter 782, Oregon Laws 2009.

4 Whereas the Legislative Assembly has declared that it is the goal of the State of Oregon to  
5 promote access to broadband services for all Oregonians in order to improve the economy in  
6 Oregon; and

7 Whereas the Legislative Assembly has declared that it is the policy of the State of Oregon to  
8 promote, facilitate and encourage activities, projects and businesses that improve Oregon's Internet  
9 Protocol network infrastructure, performance and connectivity to the Internet backbone network  
10 and World Wide Web for the benefit of Oregon's commercial, educational, governmental and indi-  
11 vidual users; and

12 Whereas the Internet and Internet Protocol networks serve as infrastructure necessary for the  
13 conduct of commerce and communication, important for economic and community resilience, and  
14 necessary to establish and maintain Oregon's global competitiveness; now, therefore,

15 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

16 **SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Broadband Office is created within the Oregon Business**  
17 **Development Department. The Director of the Oregon Business Development Department**  
18 **shall appoint the employees of the office.**

19 **(2) The Oregon Broadband Office shall:**

20 **(a) Advocate for the adoption of public policies that close the continuing digital divide by**  
21 **removing barriers to and supporting broadband infrastructure deployment;**

22 **(b) Develop broadband investment and deployment strategies for unserved and under-**  
23 **served areas;**

24 **(c) Promote private sector, public sector and cooperative broadband solutions;**

25 **(d) Support and promote local and regional broadband planning;**

26 **(e) Promote technology and service provider neutrality by focusing on desired outcomes**  
27 **rather than specific technological solutions;**

28 **(f) Pursue and leverage federal sources of broadband funding to achieve state goals re-**  
29 **lated to broadband;**

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (g) Manage and award funds allocated to the Oregon Business Development Department  
 2 for use by the office for broadband projects;

3 (h) Engage with a stakeholders representing a wide variety of interests, including but not  
 4 limited to elected officials, government officials, healthcare providers, educators, business  
 5 and agricultural community leaders and other community leaders and broadband service  
 6 providers, to facilitate communications and collect information necessary to help make a  
 7 business case for broadband investments;

8 (i) Promote digital literacy, equity and inclusion;

9 (j) Generate public awareness of the value of broadband technologies and applications;

10 (k) Promote adoption and utilization of broadband technologies and applications;

11 (L) Develop, maintain and provide public access to:

12 (A) A statewide broadband map as a platform for data collection to track the availability  
 13 of broadband services and to measure progress; and

14 (B) Other information relating to broadband;

15 (m) Convene relevant state and federal agencies and advise the Governor, state agency  
 16 leadership and the Oregon Congressional Delegation on actions to leverage state government  
 17 activities to pursue state goals related to broadband; and

18 (n) Support and coordinate efforts with the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council.

19 **SECTION 2. Section 5, chapter 782, Oregon Laws 2009, is repealed.**

20 **SECTION 3.** Section 1, chapter 782, Oregon Laws 2009, as amended by section 9, chapter 272,  
 21 Oregon Laws 2011, section 3, chapter 545, Oregon Laws 2011, and section 33, chapter 807, Oregon  
 22 Laws 2015, is amended to read:

23 **Sec. 1.** (1) The Oregon Broadband Advisory Council is established within the Oregon Business  
 24 Development Department. The council consists of [14] 15 members, of whom:

25 (a) The Governor shall appoint [12] 13 members as follows:

26 (A) One member to represent the counties of this state.

27 (B) One member to represent the cities of this state.

28 (C) Three members to represent telecommunications service providers and Internet service pro-  
 29 viders in this state. At least one member must represent rural telecommunications consortia.

30 (D) One member to represent Oregon tribes.

31 (E) One member to represent education.

32 (F) One member to represent economic development.

33 (G) One member to represent public safety.

34 (H) One member to represent health.

35 (I) One member to represent the State Chief Information Officer.

36 (J) One member from the Public Utility Commission.

37 **(K) One member to represent consumers and the public at large.**

38 (b) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one nonvoting member who is a  
 39 member of the House of Representatives.

40 (c) The President of the Senate shall appoint one nonvoting member who is a member of the  
 41 Senate.

42 (2) The term of office of each voting member is four years, but a voting member serves at the  
 43 pleasure of the Governor. Before the term of a voting member expires, the Governor shall appoint  
 44 a successor whose term begins on January 1 next following. A voting member is eligible for reap-  
 45 pointment. If there is a vacancy for any cause, the Governor shall make an appointment that be-

1 comes immediately effective for the unexpired term.

2 (3) The nonvoting legislative members shall serve two-year terms and are eligible for reap-  
3 pointment.

4 (4) Members of the council who are not members of the Legislative Assembly are not entitled  
5 to compensation, but voting members may be paid expenses if funding is available from contributions  
6 the Oregon Business Development Department accepts under section 3 (2), chapter 782, Oregon  
7 Laws 2009.

8 (5) Members of the council who are members of the Legislative Assembly are entitled to com-  
9 pensation and expense reimbursement as provided in ORS 171.072.

10 (6) The council shall select one of the council's voting members as chairperson and another  
11 voting member as vice chairperson, for such terms and with duties and powers necessary for per-  
12 forming the functions of the offices as the council determines.

13 (7) A majority of the voting members of the council constitutes a quorum for transacting busi-  
14 ness.

15 (8) The council shall meet at least once every three months at a place, day and hour determined  
16 by the council. The council may also meet at other times and places specified by the call of the  
17 chairperson or of a majority of the members of the council.

18 (9) A majority of the voting members of the council must approve official action by the council.  
19 The council may recommend legislation, *[which must be prepared in time for pre-session filing by*  
20 *December 15 of the year preceding an odd-numbered year regular session of the Legislative Assembly]*  
21 **public policy and solutions to address the state's broadband needs and goals.**

22 (10) **The council shall champion statewide access to broadband services and shall en-**  
23 **courage:**

24 (a) **Coordination between existing organizations and sectors that can leverage broadband**  
25 **to their advantage;**

26 (b) **State agencies to utilize broadband telecommunications;**

27 (c) **The development and support of digital inclusion and education programs to encour-**  
28 **age broadband adoption and provide citizens with institutions to teach digital skills necessary**  
29 **for success in the workplace;**

30 (d) **Efforts to provide cost-effective quality workforce development training using tele-**  
31 **communications infrastructure and facilities to access distance learning opportunities;**

32 (e) **Schools, education service districts and local education agencies in unserved areas to**  
33 **promote broadband access for the surrounding community;**

34 (f) **Public and private entities to seek opportunities for partnership with educational in-**  
35 **stitutions that will stimulate the use of broadband technologies through community projects**  
36 **and public education;**

37 (g) **The use of broadband communications technologies for telehealth and telemedicine;**  
38 **and**

39 (h) **Public and private organizations to work together in partnership to promote the use**  
40 **of telecommunications infrastructure and new technology.**

41 [(10)] (11) The Oregon Business Development Department shall provide staff or facilities to the  
42 council.

43 [(11)] (12) The State Chief Information Officer, the Public Utility Commission and the Depart-  
44 ment of Education may provide staff or facilities to the council.

45 [(12)] (13) All agencies of state government, as defined in ORS 174.111, shall assist the council

1 in the performance of the council's duties and, to the extent permitted by laws relating to  
2 confidentiality, to furnish such information and advice as the members of the council consider nec-  
3 essary to perform the members' duties.

4 **SECTION 4.** Section 3, chapter 782, Oregon Laws 2009, is amended to read:

5 **Sec. 3.** (1) The Oregon Broadband Advisory Council Fund is established, separate and distinct  
6 from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council Fund shall be  
7 credited to the fund. Moneys in the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council Fund are continuously  
8 appropriated to the Oregon Business Development Department for the purposes of carrying out the  
9 duties of the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council.

10 (2) The department, on behalf of the council, may accept contributions of funds and assistance  
11 from the United States Government or agencies of the United States Government or from any other  
12 source, public or private, and agree to conditions not inconsistent with the purposes of the council.  
13 All such funds are to aid in financing the functions of the council and must be deposited in the  
14 Oregon Broadband Advisory Council Fund to the credit of separate accounts for the council to dis-  
15 burse for the purposes for which the funds were contributed.

16 [(3) *The council shall encourage:*]

17 [(a) *Coordination between existing organizations and sectors that can leverage broadband to their*  
18 *advantage;*]

19 [(b) *State agencies to utilize broadband telecommunications;*]

20 [(c) *The development and support of digital inclusion and education programs to encourage*  
21 *broadband adoption and provide citizens with institutions to teach digital skills necessary for success*  
22 *in the workplace;*]

23 [(d) *Efforts to provide cost-effective quality workforce development training using telecommuni-*  
24 *cations infrastructure and facilities to access distance learning opportunities;*]

25 [(e) *Schools, education service districts and local education agencies in unserved areas to promote*  
26 *broadband access for the surrounding community;*]

27 [(f) *Public and private entities to seek opportunities for partnership with educational institutions*  
28 *that will stimulate the use of broadband technologies through community projects and public*  
29 *education;*]

30 [(g) *The use of broadband communications technologies for telehealth and telemedicine; and*]

31 [(h) *Public and private organizations to work together in partnership to promote the use of tele-*  
32 *communications infrastructure and new technology.*]

33 **SECTION 5.** Section 4, chapter 782, Oregon Laws 2009, as amended by section 35, chapter 807,  
34 Oregon Laws 2015, and section 1, chapter 124, Oregon Laws 2017, is amended to read:

35 **Sec. 4.** The Oregon Broadband Advisory Council shall submit a report by November 1 of each  
36 even-numbered year to the Joint Legislative Committee on Information Management and Technology  
37 on the following subjects:

38 (1) The affordability and accessibility of broadband technology in all areas of this state;

39 (2) The extent of broadband technology use in this state in [*the telehealth industry*] **business,**  
40 **health care,** energy management, education and government; and

41 (3) The role of broadband technology in local, state and regional economies and economic de-  
42 velopment.

43 **SECTION 6.** ORS 403.450, as amended by section 4, chapter 87, Oregon Laws 2014, and section  
44 48, chapter 807, Oregon Laws 2015, is amended to read:

45 403.450. (1) The State Interoperability Executive Council is created under the State Chief In-

1 formation Officer to be the statewide interoperability governing body serving as the primary steer-  
 2 ing group for the Oregon Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan. The membership of the  
 3 council consists of:

4 (a) Two members from the Legislative Assembly, as follows:

5 (A) The President of the Senate shall appoint one member from the Senate with an interest in  
 6 public safety communications infrastructure; and

7 (B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint one member from the House of  
 8 Representatives with an interest in public safety and emergency communications infrastructure.

9 (b) The following members appointed by the Governor:

10 (A) One member from the Department of State Police;

11 (B) One member from the Office of Emergency Management;

12 (C) One member from the State Forestry Department;

13 (D) One member from the Department of Corrections;

14 (E) One member from the Department of Transportation;

15 (F) One member from the office of the State Chief Information Officer;

16 (G) One member from the Oregon Health Authority;

17 (H) One member from the Oregon Military Department;

18 (I) One member from the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training;

19 **(J) One member from the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council;**

20 ~~[(J)]~~ **(K)** One member of an Indian tribe as defined in ORS 97.740 or a designee of an Indian  
 21 tribe; and

22 ~~[(K)]~~ **(L)** One member of the public.

23 (c) The following members appointed by the Governor with the concurrence of the President of  
 24 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

25 (A) One member from the Oregon Fire Chiefs Association;

26 (B) One member from the Oregon Association Chiefs of Police;

27 (C) One member from the Oregon State Sheriffs' Association;

28 (D) One member from the Association of Oregon Counties;

29 (E) One member from the League of Oregon Cities;

30 (F) One member from the Special Districts Association of Oregon;

31 (G) One member who is an information technology officer of an Oregon city;

32 (H) One member who is an information technology officer of an Oregon county;

33 (I) One member who represents a nonprofit professional organization interested in the enhance-  
 34 ment of public safety communications systems; and

35 (J) One member of the public who works or resides in Federal Communications Commission  
 36 Region 35.

37 (2) Each agency or organization identified in subsection (1)(b)(A) to ~~[(I)]~~ **(J)** and (1)(c)(A) to (H)  
 38 of this section shall recommend an individual from the agency or organization for membership on  
 39 the council.

40 (3) Members of the council are not entitled to compensation, but in the discretion of the State  
 41 Chief Information Officer may be reimbursed from funds available to the office of the State Chief  
 42 Information Officer for actual and necessary travel and other expenses the members incur in per-  
 43 forming the members' official duties in the manner and amount provided in ORS 292.495.

44 (4) Members of the Legislative Assembly appointed to the council are nonvoting members and  
 45 may act in an advisory capacity only.

