

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

**Oregon Business Development Department
Oregon Broadband Office Report**

On February 18th, the Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommended acknowledging receipt of a report from the Oregon Business Development Department on the Oregon Broadband Office.

As required by a budget note, the Oregon Business Development Department reported information on the areas lacking broadband infrastructure, on best practices for public-private partnerships in broadband infrastructure investment, and on criteria for prioritizing state investments in broadband.

Although 95% of Oregon's population currently has access to basic broadband services, the 5% who does not is spread over broad geographic areas of the state. State support can help expand broadband access in rural areas where the cost-per-customer is especially high. OBDD would give top preference to infrastructure projects that include broadband upgrades for schools and public libraries; and second priority to other projects that serve residential customers, if funds are provided for the broadband program.

The Transportation and Economic Development Subcommittee recommends approval.