

HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 3256

By COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND PROSPERITY

April 8

1 Delete lines 4 through 11 of the printed bill and insert:

2 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund is established in the State**
3 **Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Connecting**
4 **Oregon Libraries Fund shall be credited to the fund.**

5 **“(2) The Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund consists of any moneys deposited in the fund**
6 **from whatever source and may include moneys appropriated, allocated, deposited or trans-**
7 **ferred to the fund by the Legislative Assembly or otherwise and interest earned on moneys**
8 **in the fund.**

9 **“(3) The moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the State Library for the**
10 **purpose of providing matching funds for federal moneys received by the State Library, the**
11 **State Library Board, public libraries established in accordance with ORS 357.410, school li-**
12 **braries, tribal libraries as defined in ORS 357.206 or academic libraries in Oregon for the**
13 **purpose of providing broadband access to eligible library facilities in this state.**

14 **“(4) A public, school, tribal or academic library is eligible to receive matching funds un-**
15 **der this section if the library:**

16 **“(a) Receives federal moneys for the purpose of providing broadband access to the li-**
17 **brary;**

18 **“(b) Takes steps to determine whether existing broadband infrastructure, including**
19 **fiber-based broadband, may be integrated into the proposed broadband access project; and**

20 **“(c) Meets any other eligibility requirements established by the State Library Board by**
21 **rule.**

22 **“(5)(a) Before the State Library may distribute any state moneys under this section, the**
23 **board shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section, including rules setting**
24 **criteria that govern the distribution of the moneys to eligible libraries.**

25 **“(b) Rules adopted under this section must take into consideration any eligibility re-**
26 **quirements established by the federal program awarding federal moneys.**

27 **“SECTION 2. (1) The Public Utility Commission, in consultation with the Oregon**
28 **Broadband Office, the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council and the Oregon Telephone As-**
29 **sistance Program Advisory Committee, shall investigate and make recommendations on the**
30 **feasibility of:**

31 **“(a) Expanding or increasing the plan of assistance established under section 6, chapter**
32 **290, Oregon Laws 1987, to support adequate and reasonable access to broadband internet**
33 **access service or other telecommunication services by residential customers with low in-**
34 **comes in this state; and**

35 **“(b) Applying the surcharge assessed under ORS 759.685 to support expanded access to**

1 **broadband internet access service or other telecommunication services.**

2 **“(2) As part of the investigation required under subsection (1) of this section, the com-**
3 **mission shall consider barriers faced by residential customers with low incomes to obtaining**
4 **broadband internet access service or other telecommunication services that include but may**
5 **not be limited to:**

6 **“(a) Equipment and related services needed to obtain and utilize broadband internet ac-**
7 **cess service or other telecommunication services;**

8 **“(b) Legal and regulatory incentives and limitations that may affect the state’s ability**
9 **to expand or increase the plan of assistance or the associated surcharge to support expanded**
10 **access to broadband internet access service or other telecommunication services; and**

11 **“(c) The availability of other forms of federal, state or local support for broadband**
12 **internet access service or other telecommunication services.**

13 **“(3) The commission shall submit a report on its findings to an appropriate interim**
14 **committee of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022.**

15 **“SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31, 2022.**

16 **“SECTION 4. This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2021**
17 **regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.”**