

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 78

BY REPRESENTATIVES SCHEXNAYDER, GAROFALO, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, BEAULLIEU, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARRIER, GARY CARTER, ROBBY CARTER, CORMIER, COX, CREWS, DAVIS, DESHOTEL, ECHOLS, EDMONDS, FIRMENT, FREIBERG, FRIEMAN, GADBERRY, GAINES, GOUDEAU, HARRIS, HODGES, HORTON, HUGHES, ILLG, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, MIKE JOHNSON, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JONES, JORDAN, KERNER, LACOMBE, LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MACK, MARCELLE, MARINO, MCCORMICK, MCFARLAND, MCKNIGHT, MCMAHEN, MIGUEZ, DUSTIN MILLER, GREGORY MILLER, MINCEY, MOORE, CHARLES OWEN, PRESSLY, RISER, ROMERO, SCHAMERHORN, SELDERS, ST. BLANC, STAGNI, THOMAS, THOMPSON, WHEAT, WHITE, WILLARD, AND WRIGHT

COMMERCE: Provides relative to Louisiana broadband maps to identify access and activation gaps

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission to create and
3 provide broadband maps, in cooperation and coordination with the Federal
4 Communications Commission's efforts, to identify access and activation gaps in
5 Louisiana.

6 WHEREAS, in the modern economy, rural broadband is a lifeline to quality of life
7 and economic opportunity; and

8 WHEREAS, while broadband high-speed internet service is abundantly available in
9 Louisiana cities, it is woefully absent in the rural areas of the state; and

10 WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, eighty
11 percent of the twenty-four million American households who lack reliable and affordable
12 high-speed internet are in rural areas; and

13 WHEREAS, the federal government, though the United States Department of
14 Agriculture, is currently making investments in broadband infrastructures to help transform
15 rural America, providing innovation and technology to increase economic competitiveness
16 and opportunities; and

1 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture currently provides loans
2 and grants to increase high-speed internet access in rural areas; and

3 WHEREAS, a reliable and accurate mapping of current broadband access and
4 activation gaps is critical to effectively utilizing these resources; and

5 WHEREAS, the currently available broadband maps have proven to be unreliable
6 and inaccurate; and

7 WHEREAS, a local approach to mapping will provide better information for
8 Louisiana residents and businesses to use in order to have access to broadband services.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
10 urge and request the Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission within the office of
11 the governor to create and provide broadband maps, in cooperation and coordination with
12 the Federal Communications Commission's efforts, to identify access and activation gaps.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the broadband maps requested by this
14 Resolution be submitted to the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee
15 on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs on or before January 1, 2021.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
17 Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission within the office of the governor.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 78 Reengrossed

2020 Regular Session

Schexnayder

Requests the Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission to create and provide broadband maps, in cooperation and coordination with the Federal Communications Commission's efforts, to identify access and activation gaps in Louisiana, and to submit the maps to the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs on or before January 1, 2021.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Instruct the Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission to work in cooperation and coordination with the Federal Communications Commissions efforts, when executing the directives of the Resolution.