HLS 20RS-1587 ORIGINAL

2020 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 78

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHEXNAYDER

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

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission to create and
3	provide broadband maps to identify access and activation gaps in Louisiana.
4	WHEREAS, in the modern economy, rural broadband is a lifeline to quality of life
5	and economic opportunity; and
6	WHEREAS, while broadband high-speed internet service is abundantly available in
7	Louisiana cities, it is woefully absent in the rural areas of the state; and
8	WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, eighty
9	percent of the twenty-four million American households who lack reliable and affordable
0	high-speed internet are in rural areas; and
1	WHEREAS, the federal government, though the United States Department of
12	Agriculture, is currently making investments in broadband infrastructures to help transform
13	rural America, providing innovation and technology to increase economic competitiveness
14	and opportunities; and
15	WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture currently provides loans
16	and grants to increase high-speed internet access in rural areas; and
17	WHEREAS, a reliable and accurate mapping of current broadband access and
8	activation gaps is critical to effectively utilizing these resources; and
19	WHEREAS, the currently available broadband maps provided by the Federal
20	Communications Commission have proven to be unreliable and inaccurate; and

1 WHEREAS, a local approach to mapping will provide better information for 2 Louisiana residents and businesses to use in order to have access to broadband services. 3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 4 urge and request the Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission within the office of 5 the governor to create and provide broadband maps to identify access and activation gaps. 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the broadband maps requested by this Resolution be submitted to the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee 7 8 on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs on or before January 1, 2021. 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 10 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 Original

2020 Regular Session

Schexnayder

Requests the Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission to create and provide broadband maps 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.