
DIGEST

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HB 74 Reengrossed

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Deshotel

Abstract: Creates the office of broadband and connectivity.

Proposed law creates the office of broadband and connectivity (office), places it within the office of the governor, and requires the office to report to the governor and various committees.

Proposed law provides definitions.

Proposed law establishes appointment and termination procedures for the executive director, and allows the executive director to employ staff to carry out the duties of proposed law.

Proposed law requires the executive director to submit an annual report to the legislature which is to contain certain information regarding the activities of the office, data and assessments relative to broadband and connectivity, a mapping initiative, information on available grants, recommendations for legislation, and needed resources to achieve the duties set out in proposed law.

Proposed law requires the governor to direct other state agencies to assist the office.

Proposed law provides for the functions, powers, and duties of the office which serve to advance the expansion and accessibility of broadband and other connectivity services in the state, and provides the office the authority to contract with persons and government agencies in order to carry out those duties.

(Adds R.S. 36:4(CC), R.S. 49:968(B)(21)(d), and R.S. 51:1361-1364)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Require the governor to provide written notice of termination of the executive director to the nominating committee, instead of requiring the concurrence of the nominating

committee.

3. Add additional duties to the office of broadband and connectivity.