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## DIGEST

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HB 622 Original

2021 Regular Session

Thompson

**Abstract:** Creates the "Rural Development Fund" and program.

Present law creates the office of rural development within the office of the governor and provides for the powers and authorities of the office and executive director.

Proposed law retains present law and adds "broadband connectivity" and "water quality and treatment" as policy areas considered to be a part of rural development and revitalization.

Proposed law reestablishes previously repealed law to create the "Rural Development Fund" and "Rural Development Program" for the purpose of mitigating the rapid deterioration of rural health, education, infrastructure, and other systems essential to the socioeconomic wellbeing of the state's rural population.

Proposed law provides for permissible sources of monies to deposit into the fund and guidelines for administering the funds and program.

(Amends R.S. 3:12(4) and (5) and 313(9); Adds R.S. 3:321-323)