

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

AGENCY LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

2009 SESSION

Document Name Draft Broadband Initiative Legislation January 2009

Agency Department of Public Utility Control	Agency Priority (necessary) High
Contact Person Robert H. Mundy	Telephone 860-827-2692
Email Address Robert.mundy@po.state.ct.us	
Title of Proposal An Act ProvidingThe Deployment of High Speed Broadband Access and Closing the Internet Divide in Connecticut	Statutory Reference New sections Proposal Type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmittal
ATTACH COPY OF FULLY DRAFTED BILL (Required for review)	

APPROVAL OF OTHER AFFECTED AGENCY (Attach additional approvals if necessary)	
Agency	Agency Contact (Name and Title)

<i>Attach Summary of Agency</i>	Contact Date
<i>Comments</i>	

Summary of Proposal (Include background information)

This proposal would enlist a public-private partnership to implement a statewide high-speed Internet deployment plan in order to ensure that all residents and businesses in Connecticut have access to affordable broadband service and to increase technology literacy and computer ownership.

The proposed bill specifically provides for an immediate investigation to identify gaps in broadband service through geographic information system (GIS) mapping of availability at the census block level and to develop a baseline assessment of broadband deployment in terms of percentage of households with access and their available speeds.

Reason for Proposal (Include significant policy and programmatic impacts)

To continue progress in the deployment and adoption of high speed access to Internet services and information technology, that are vital to ensuring that this state remains competitive and continues to create business and job growth, and to encourage and support the partnership of the public and private sectors in the continued growth of high speed access to the Internet and information technology for the state's residents and businesses.

To determine future plans to ensure that every resident and business in Connecticut has access to high-speed Internet services and, as part of this effort, to address digital literacy and technology training needs of low-income and technology underserved residents of the state through state support of community technology programs.

A full analysis of the foundation for this proposal can be found in Docket No. 08-05-17, Investigation Into The Deployment Of High Speed Broadband Access Facilities In Connecticut, Final Decision, dated December 24, 2008.

Significant Fiscal Impacts

Municipal: None

Federal: None

State: \$85 million in general bond obligations