

One Hundred Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2024

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1031

Chairperson: Senator Mike Moser

Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

Date of Hearing: January 22, 2024

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB1031 harmonizes current statutory speed standards defining broadband services.

Specifically, the bill clarifies that 100/100 is the speed standard a broadband provider must achieve to qualify for subsidies from the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund ("NUSF").

The bill also adjusts the speed standard applied to dark fiber to prevent public entities from over-building broadband infrastructure. It increases the overbuilding standard from 25/3 to 100/20, consistent with all other state programs.

Finally, the bill amends two statutes related to the Rural Broadband Task Force, defining broadband as 100/100. As mentioned above, this is consistent with all other sections of Nebraska law.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Bruce Bostelman