



HOUSE BILL 103: 2022 Appropriations Act, Sec. 38.2: Expand GREAT for Wireless Broadband.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:		Date:	August 4, 2022
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Jennifer McGinnis Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	Sec. 38.2 of S.L. 2022-74		

OVERVIEW: Section 38.2 of S.L. 2022-74 expands the Growing Rural Economies with Access to Technology (GREAT) Program to provide grants to wireless broadband providers for projects designed to extend broadband service to unserved economically distressed area of the State.

This section became effective on July 11, 2022.

CURRENT LAW/BACKGROUND: The GREAT Program is a broadband infrastructure grant program designed to extend broadband service to unserved economically distressed area of the State. The Program was originally established in 2018, and is administered by the Broadband Infrastructure Office of the Department of Information Technology.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 38.2 of S.L. 2022-74 expands the GREAT Program to provide grants to wireless broadband providers for projects designed to extend broadband service to unserved economically distressed area of the State. Only those projects providing wireless internet access service with transmission speeds of at least 100 megabits per second (Mbps) download and at least 20 megabits per second upload (100:20), and a latency sufficient to support real-time, interactive applications, would be eligible for GREAT funding under this section. Satellite-based internet access service would not be eligible under this section (but is still eligible under the Satellite Based Broadband Grant Fund established under G.S. 143B-1374).

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective on July 11, 2022.

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