

SENATE BILL 105: 2021 Appropriations Act, Sec. 38.6: **Completing Access to Broadband Program**

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee: Date: February 22, 2022 **Introduced by:** Prepared by: Aaron McGlothlin Analysis of: Sec. 38.6 of S.L. 2021-180 Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Section 38.6 of S.L. 2021-180 establishes the Completing Access to Broadband Program (CAB) to supplement federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding received by counties with State ARPA funds to expand broadband infrastructure to unserved and underserved areas.

This section became effective July 1, 2021.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 38.6 of S.L. 2021-180 establishes the CAB program. Counties participating in the CAB program can identify unserved areas, in collaboration with the Broadband Infrastructure Office in the Department of Information Technology (Department), that are eligible for program funding. Under the guidance of the Department, a county can initiate a bid process to select a broadband service provider for broadband infrastructure expansion into unserved and underserved areas. The county and the State are each responsible for a portion of the project cost utilizing ARPA funds.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 1, 2021.

Matthew Meinig, Staff Attorney, substantially contributed to this summary.