LEGISLATIVE BILL 498

Introduced by DeBoer, 10.
Read first time January 19, 2021
Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to broadband services; to require the Public Service Commission to implement a broadband service testing and mapping program as prescribed.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,
Section 1.  

(1) The Public Service Commission shall implement a broadband service testing and mapping program designed to provide information on broadband availability and broadband speeds received by telecommunications service subscribers in Nebraska. 

(2) The commission may contract with third-party contractors to test, validate, and map broadband service availability and speeds for purposes of the program. As a condition for receiving Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund support, each telecommunications company receiving universal service support shall be required to submit data to the commission for testing under the program. 

(3) The program may utilize independent computing devices that are first-in-line to the telecommunications service provider connection, independent of all other subscriber-premise personal equipment used for measuring broadband speeds, which can test and validate broadband service availability and speeds at the telecommunications service subscriber's premises, with the subscriber's prior consent. 

(4) The commission shall utilize the program to provide validation information in a public broadband map, and may share such map with the Federal Communications Commission for any purpose the Public Service Commission deems necessary. 

(5) The data collected and map developed shall be made available to the public on the commission's web site.