

**One Hundred Eighth Legislature - First Session - 2023**

**Introducer's Statement of Intent**

**LB61**

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**Chairperson: Senator Suzanne Geist**

**Committee: Transportation and Telecommunications**

**Date of Hearing: February 21, 2023**

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

LB61 would enable public power utilities to lease their dark fiber and would lift hurdles to rural broadband development by repealing the dark fiber statutes and allowing utilities to partner with internet providers to provide high-speed connectivity to unserved and underserved communities.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Tom Brandt**