



Rep. Rita Mayfield

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LRB102 17355 RJF 26134 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2290

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2290 as follows:

3 on page 1, immediately below line 3, by inserting the
4 following:

5 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
6 Illinois Broadband Adoption Fund Act.

7 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

8 "Broadband Internet" means lines or wireless channels that
9 terminate at an end-user location and enable the end-user to
10 receive a minimum service level of 25 megabits per second
11 download speed and 3 megabits per second upload speed.

12 "Covered agencies" means those social service agencies
13 receiving State or federal funds to assist persons eligible
14 under the Illinois Broadband Adoption Program.

15 "Department" means the Department of Human Services.

1 "Fund" refers to the Illinois Broadband Adoption Fund.

2 "Provider" means a provider of broadband Internet in this
3 State.

4 Section 10. Illinois Broadband Adoption Program. The
5 Illinois Broadband Adoption Program is established for the
6 purpose of expanding availability of broadband Internet
7 connectivity throughout the State by:

8 (1) providing financial assistance to State residents
9 to whom broadband Internet service is available, but who
10 may require assistance to adopt or maintain service due to
11 economic hardship;

12 (2) promoting the adoption of home broadband Internet
13 service by State residents; and

14 (3) supporting digital skills training for State
15 residents.

16 Section 15. Illinois Broadband Adoption Fund.

17 (a) The Illinois Broadband Adoption Fund is established
18 for the purpose of providing financial assistance under this
19 Act. The Department shall administer the fund.

20 (b) The fund consists of:

21 (1) money received through the federal American Rescue
22 Plan and other vehicles designed to address and relieve
23 economic hardship for State households;

24 (2) money appropriated by the General Assembly;

1 (3) money transferred to the fund under the Treasurer
2 as Custodian of Funds Act; and

3 (4) donations, gifts, and money received from any
4 other source, including transfers from other funds or
5 accounts.

6 (c) The Treasurer shall invest the money in the fund not
7 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the
8 same manner as other public funds may be invested.

9 Section 20. Application for financial assistance.

10 (a) The Department may determine qualifications for
11 broadband Internet provider participation and enter into an
12 agreement with each provider under which the provider agrees
13 to accept vouchers distributed by the Department under this
14 Act as a form of payment for the provider's broadband Internet
15 service.

16 (b) In coordination with the covered agencies, the
17 Department shall send information regarding the availability
18 of financial assistance under this Act to each eligible family
19 or person receiving the public assistance in Section (d). The
20 information must include:

21 (1) the name and contact information of each provider
22 who has entered into an agreement with the Department as
23 described in subsection (a) whose broadband Internet
24 service is available in their area; and

25 (2) instructions for applying to the Department for

1 financial assistance under this Section.

2 (c) An individual who receives information under
3 subsection (b) may apply for financial assistance under this
4 Section in the manner specified by the Department. Upon
5 receipt of an application, the Department shall determine:

6 (1) the applicant's eligibility for financial
7 assistance;

8 (2) the amount of financial assistance for which the
9 applicant is eligible; and

10 (3) whether the applicant is eligible for a single
11 payment or a recurring payment of financial assistance,
12 based on the Department's assessment of the applicant's
13 need.

14 (d) An applicant for financial assistance under this Act
15 is automatically eligible for financial assistance under this
16 Act if:

17 (1) the applicant is receiving, or the applicant's
18 household includes, an individual who is receiving
19 benefits under:

20 (A) the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
21 (TANF) program;

22 (B) the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
23 Program (SNAP); or

24 (C) the Medicaid program; or

25 (2) the applicant's household includes a child who is
26 eligible for free or reduced-price lunch.

1 (e) If the Department determines under subsection (c) that
2 an individual is eligible for financial assistance, or that
3 the individual is eligible for financial assistance under
4 subsection (d), the Department may provide financial
5 assistance to the individual or to the broadband Internet
6 provider designated by the individual in the form of one or
7 more vouchers, each in the amount of \$50, that can be used by
8 the individual to pay one or more of the following expenses:

9 (1) fees charged by a broadband Internet provider for
10 installation, activation, equipment purchase, Wi-Fi
11 extenders, or other one-time expenses of providing
12 broadband Internet service to the individual;

13 (2) monthly subscription fees charged by a broadband
14 Internet provider for the provision of broadband Internet
15 service to the individual household, including modem,
16 router, or other service or equipment charges; and

17 (3) overdue amounts owed to provider, including
18 administrative fees and penalties.

19 A voucher or similar designation of eligibility may be
20 provided by the Department in printed or electronic form.

21 (f) A provider that receives a voucher under this Section
22 from an individual household who subscribes to the provider's
23 broadband Internet service shall deduct the amount of the
24 voucher from the amount owed by the subscriber for the
25 provider's provision of broadband Internet service to the
26 individual household on a monthly basis.

1 (g) If the fund does not receive an ongoing appropriation
2 from the General Assembly, the Department shall provide a
3 90-day notice to participating households and broadband
4 Internet providers that financial support will be
5 discontinued."; and

6 on page 1, line 4, by replacing "Section 5" with "Section 100";
7 and

8 on page 1, line 23, by replacing "if" with "when"; and

9 on page 3, by replacing lines 6 through 17 with the following:

10 "(e) The Department may adopt any rules necessary to
11 administer the provisions of this Section."; and

12 on page 3, immediately below line 17, by inserting the
13 following:

14 "Section 105. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
15 Section 5.935 as follows:

16 "(30 ILCS 105/5.935 new)

17 Sec. 5.935. The Illinois Broadband Adoption Fund."; and

18 on page 3, line 18, by replacing "Section 99" with "Section

1 999".