



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 18-31

ESTABLISHING THE OREGON BROADBAND OFFICE

Whereas, broadband constitutes critical infrastructure for the prosperity of all Oregonians, especially Oregon's rural and underserved communities; and

Whereas, broadband is increasingly vital for the conduct of commerce, the economic vitality of communities, and Oregon's global competitiveness; and

Whereas, access to broadband levels the playing field, facilitates social mobility, and stimulates job creation; and

Whereas, broadband enables and is indeed vital to the delivery of education, health care, and other critical services; and

Whereas, it is the goal of this State to promote access to broadband services for all Oregonians in order to improve the economy and quality of life,

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Oregon Broadband Office is created within the Oregon Business Development Department.
2. The Oregon Broadband Office shall:
 - Advocate for the adoption of public policies that remove barriers to and support broadband infrastructure deployment to close the continuing digital divide;
 - Develop broadband investment and deployment strategies for unserved and underserved areas;
 - Promote and coordinate private sector, public sector, and cooperative broadband solutions;
 - Support and promote local and regional broadband planning;
 - Pursue and leverage federal sources of broadband funding to achieve state broadband goals;



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- Manage and award funds allocated to the office for broadband projects;
 - Engage with stakeholders, elected officials, government officials, tribal governments, healthcare providers, educators, businesses, the agriculture sector, public safety entities, community leaders, and broadband service providers to facilitate communication and aggregate the demand of the different segments of the community to help make a business case for broadband investment;
 - Develop and maintain a broadband map as a platform for data collection to track the availability of broadband services and measure progress, as well as other related information, and provide public access to the data;
 - Support and coordinate efforts with the Oregon Broadband Advisory Council.
3. The Oregon Broadband Office shall consist of a telecommunications strategist and such other personnel as the Oregon Business Development Department or the Legislative Assembly shall commit.
4. State agencies determined by the Governor's office to have operations and missions relevant to expanding broadband access shall coordinate with the Oregon Broadband Office in support of that Office's mission.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 14th day of December, 2018.



Kate Brown

Kate Brown
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Dennis Richardson

Dennis Richardson
SECRETARY OF STATE