(H.360/S.118) Some Finance Committee Decision Points (Very High Level) Questions and Options for Consideration

Prepared by Legislative Counsel - April 16, 2021



Expand fixed broadband access

Expand cellular coverage



What programs are needed to accomplish the goals?

Preconstruction

Construction

Digital Inclusion

- Affordability

- Adoption

Workforce Development



What are the funding sources?

ARPA

Universal Service Charge (0.4%)

General Fund

Potential Future Federal Funds?

How should projects be financed/supported?

Grants

Loans

Admin/Tech. Support

Property Tax Exemption Broadband Corp



What entities are eligible for support?

CUDs (alone, or with a partner)

Indep. Telephone Co.'s

"Small" ISPs

ISPs

Electric Co.'s



What conditions attach to public financing?

(Requirements or Priorities?)

- * Minimum Speed Requirements
 - * Unserved and Underserved Locations
 - * Plan for Universal Coverage
- * Affordable Service Options
- * Supports Low-income or Disadvantaged Commuities
- * Promotes Geographic Diversity
- * Shared Access to Infrastructure
 - * Leverages Federal or PPP Resources
 - * Overbuilding okay?
 - * Maintenance?

What accountability provisions are needed?

Payment when work completed

Field testing

Public Inventory

Recoupment/Public Assets



Who oversees/administers the programs?

DPS

ACCD

DCF, Economic Services Division

New Entity



If a new entity is created, need to address:

Organization

Sunset

Powers/Duties

Telecom Plan?

Mapping?

Network Resiliency?

Additional Considerations around timing:

What are the timing constraints?

What programs should be implemented within next 6 months (prior to organization of a new entity, if one authorized)

What funds appropriated before FY 2022 budget adjustment?

If a new entity is established, and it sunsets, how should that be reconciled with its time-limited duties (short-term planning?)? And rulemaking authority?