

HB 3256-5  
(LC 841)  
4/1/21 (MAM/ps)

Requested by HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND PROSPERITY (at the request of Representative Pam Marsh)

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO  
HOUSE BILL 3256**

1 Delete lines 4 through 11 of the printed bill and insert:

2 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund is estab-**  
3 **lished in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General**  
4 **Fund. Interest earned by the Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund shall**  
5 **be credited to the fund.**

6 **“(2) The Connecting Oregon Libraries Fund consists of any moneys**  
7 **deposited in the fund from whatever source and may include moneys**  
8 **appropriated, allocated, deposited or transferred to the fund by the**  
9 **Legislative Assembly or otherwise and interest earned on moneys in**  
10 **the fund.**

11 **“(3) The moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the**  
12 **State Library for the purpose of providing matching funds for federal**  
13 **moneys received by the State Library, the State Library Board, public**  
14 **libraries established in accordance with ORS 357.410, school libraries,**  
15 **tribal libraries as defined in ORS 357.206 or academic libraries in**  
16 **Oregon for the purpose of providing broadband access to eligible li-**  
17 **brary facilities in this state.**

18 **“(4) A public, school, tribal or academic library is eligible to receive**  
19 **matching funds under this section if the library:**

20 **“(a) Receives federal moneys for the purpose of providing broadband**  
21 **access to the library;**

1       **“(b) Takes steps to determine whether existing broadband**  
2 **infrastructure, including fiber-based broadband, may be integrated**  
3 **into the proposed broadband access project; and**

4       **“(c) Meets any other eligibility requirements established by the**  
5 **State Library Board by rule.**

6       **“(5)(a) Before the State Library may distribute any state moneys**  
7 **under this section, the board shall adopt rules to implement the pro-**  
8 **visions of this section, including rules setting criteria that govern the**  
9 **distribution of the moneys to eligible libraries.**

10       **“(b) Rules adopted under this section must take into consideration**  
11 **any eligibility requirements established by the federal program**  
12 **awarding federal moneys.**

13       **“SECTION 2. (1) The Public Utility Commission, in consultation**  
14 **with the Oregon Broadband Office, the Oregon Broadband Advisory**  
15 **Council and the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program Advisory**  
16 **Committee, shall investigate and make recommendations on the fea-**  
17 **sibility of:**

18       **“(a) Expanding or increasing the plan of assistance established un-**  
19 **der section 6, chapter 290, Oregon Laws 1987, to support adequate and**  
20 **reasonable access to broadband internet access service or other tele-**  
21 **communication services by residential customers with low incomes in**  
22 **this state; and**

23       **“(b) Applying the surcharge assessed under ORS 759.685 to support**  
24 **expanded access to broadband internet access service or other tele-**  
25 **communication services.**

26       **“(2) As part of the investigation required under subsection (1) of**  
27 **this section, the commission shall consider barriers faced by residen-**  
28 **tial customers with low incomes to obtaining broadband internet ac-**  
29 **cess service or other telecommunication services that include but may**  
30 **not be limited to:**

1       “(a) Equipment and related services needed to obtain and utilize  
2 broadband internet access service or other telecommunication ser-  
3 vices;

4       “(b) Legal and regulatory incentives and limitations that may affect  
5 the state’s ability to expand or increase the plan of assistance or the  
6 associated surcharge to support expanded access to broadband internet  
7 access service or other telecommunication services; and

8       “(c) The availability of other forms of federal, state or local support  
9 for broadband internet access service or other telecommunication  
10 services.

11       “(3) The commission shall submit a report on its findings to an  
12 appropriate interim committee of the Legislative Assembly no later  
13 than September 15, 2022.

14       “SECTION 3. Section 2 of this 2021 Act is repealed on December 31,  
15 2022.

16       “SECTION 4. This 2021 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
17 date on which the 2021 regular session of the Eighty-first Legislative  
18 Assembly adjourns sine die.”.

19

---