

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE BILL NO. 2052
101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

4749H.04C

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 620, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the 21st-century Missouri broadband deployment task force.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 620, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 620.2470, to read as follows:

**620.2470. 1. There is hereby created the "21st-Century Missouri Broadband
2 Deployment Task Force".**

3 2. The members of the task force shall be as follows:

**4 (1) Three members of the house of representatives, with two members appointed
5 by the speaker of the house of representatives and one member appointed by the
6 minority leader of the house of representatives;**

**7 (2) Three members of the senate, with two members appointed by the president
8 pro tempore of the senate and one member appointed by the minority leader of the
9 senate;**

10 (3) The director of broadband development;

11 (4) One member from the association of Missouri electric cooperatives;

**12 (5) Three members representing telecommunications companies consisting of
13 two representatives of large Local Exchange Telecommunications Companies, as of
14 January 1, 2022, and one representative of a small incumbent Local Exchange
15 Telecommunications Company, as those terms are defined in section 386.020;**

16 (6) One member from the Missouri Public Utility Alliance;

17 (7) One member from the Missouri Association of Counties;

18 (8) One member from the Missouri Association of Councils of Governments;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

- 19 **(9) One member from the Missouri Municipal League;**
20 **(10) One member from the Missouri Hospital Association;**
21 **(11) One member from the department of elementary and secondary education;**
22 **(12) One member from the department of mental health;**
23 **(13) One member from the cable industry;**
24 **(14) One member from the wireless industry;**
25 **(15) One member each from the Missouri Soybean Association, Missouri Pork**
26 **Producers Association, Missouri Corn Growers Association, Missouri Cattlemen's**
27 **Association, and Missouri Farm Bureau;**
28 **(16) One member from the telehealth industry;**
29 **(17) One member from the Associated General Contractors of Missouri;**
30 **(18) One member from a statewide organization representing senior citizens;**
31 **(19) One member from the Missouri Rural Water Association;**
32 **(20) One member representing an organization engaged in digital navigation;**
33 **(21) One member representing a contractor engaged in broadband deployment;**
34 **(22) One member representing a public library that provides digital navigation**
35 **services; and**
36 **(23) One member representing a coalition focused on digital equity.**
37 **3. The speaker of the house of representatives shall designate the chair of the**
38 **task force, and the president pro tempore of the senate shall designate the vice chair of**
39 **the task force.**
40 **4. Staff offices including, but not limited to, house research, house drafting,**
41 **senate research, and the joint committee on legislative research shall provide such legal,**
42 **research, clerical, technical, and bill drafting services as the task force may require in**
43 **the performance of its duties.**
44 **5. Members of the task force shall serve without compensation, but the members**
45 **and any staff assigned to the task force shall receive reimbursement for actual and**
46 **necessary expenses incurred in attending meetings of the task force or any**
47 **subcommittee thereof. All task force members shall be subject to the same conflict-**
48 **of-interest provisions in chapter 105 that are enforced by the Missouri ethics**
49 **commission in the same manner that elected or appointed officials and employees are**
50 **subject to such provisions.**
51 **6. The task force shall hold its first meeting within two months from the effective**
52 **date of this section.**
53 **7. The duties of the task force shall be to:**
54 **(1) Evaluate the status of broadband deployment in Missouri;**
55 **(2) Evaluate the deployment process; and**

56 **(3) Make recommendations about how to best increase broadband internet**
57 **deployment across the state to unserved and underserved residents.**

58 **8. The task force shall report a summary of its activities and recommendations**
59 **to the general assembly before September 30, 2023.**

60 **9. (1) The task force shall suspend its operations on September 30, 2023. At**
61 **such time, all members of the task force shall be relieved of their positions on the task**
62 **force.**

63 **(2) The task force shall resume its operations on September 30, 2024, with a new**
64 **set of members to be selected according to the provisions of subsection 2 of this section.**
65 **The new chair and the new vice chair of the task force shall be designated according to**
66 **the provisions of subsection 3 of this section.**

67 **(3) Upon resumption of its operations, the task force shall continue to receive**
68 **services according to the provisions of subsection 4 of this section and shall continue to**
69 **be subject to all provisions of subsection 5 of this section.**

70 **(4) Upon resumption of its operations, the task force shall review all summaries**
71 **and recommendations previously made under subsection 8 of this section and shall**
72 **continue to carry out the duties described in subsection 7 of this section.**

73 **(5) Upon resumption of its operations, the task force shall report an updated**
74 **summary of its activities and any recommendations for legislation to the general**
75 **assembly before September 30, 2025.**

76 **(6) After providing a report to the general assembly as required under**
77 **subdivision (5) of this subsection, the task force shall continue to meet every two years**
78 **until this section expires. The task force shall provide additional updated summaries of**
79 **its activities and additional recommendations for legislation to the general assembly, at**
80 **such times as the task force deems necessary, until the task force is terminated.**

81 **10. Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:**

82 **(1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this section shall**
83 **automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of this section unless**
84 **reauthorized by an act of the general assembly;**

85 **(2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section**
86 **shall automatically sunset twelve years after the effective date of the reauthorization of**
87 **this section; and**

88 **(3) This section shall terminate on September thirtieth of the calendar year**
89 **immediately following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this**
90 **section is sunset.**