
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2722 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY GREEN, KINSEY, GALLOWAY, DALEY, ROZZI, HOHENSTEIN,
NEILSON, CEPHAS, SCHWEYER, HOWARD, HILL-EVANS, CALTAGIRONE,
WILLIAMS, LEE, McCLINTON AND SANCHEZ, JULY 30, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, JULY 30, 2020

AN ACT

1 Providing for public housing broadband Internet benefit.

2 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

3 hereby enacts as follows:

4 Section 1. Short title.

5 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Public

6 Housing Broadband Internet Act.

7 Section 2. Definitions.

8 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
9 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
10 context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 "Broadband Internet access service." As defined in 47 CFR
12 8.1(b) (relating to transparency) or any successor regulation.

13 "Commission." The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

14 "Eligible household." A household that meets the
15 requirements under section 1437a(b)(2) of the Housing and
16 Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383, 88 Stat.
17 633) that is currently occupying a dwelling under the

1 jurisdiction of a public housing agency as defined under section
2 1437a(b)(6) of the Housing and Community Development Act of
3 1974.

4 "Tier I service." Broadband Internet access service that, at
5 a minimum, provides a download speed of 100 megabits per second,
6 an upload speed of 10 megabits per second and latency that is
7 sufficiently low to allow real-time, interactive applications
8 with no data caps or additional fees.

9 "Tier II service." Broadband Internet access service that,
10 at a minimum, provides a download speed of 25 megabits per
11 second, an upload speed of 25 megabits per second and latency
12 that is sufficiently low to allow real-time, interactive
13 applications with no data caps or additional fees.

14 Section 3. Public housing broadband Internet benefit.

15 (a) Promulgation of regulations.--The commission shall
16 promulgate regulations for the provision of a broadband Internet
17 benefit to eligible households as provided under this section.

18 (b) Requirements.--The regulations promulgated under
19 subsection (a) shall establish, at a minimum, that:

20 (1) A household shall be eligible for the provision of
21 Tier I service or Tier II service, supported by the broadband
22 Internet benefit, if the household is an eligible household.

23 (2) A provider of broadband Internet access service
24 shall apply to the commission for the reimbursement as
25 provided under subsection (c) for each eligible household
26 that requests broadband Internet access and receives Tier I
27 service or Tier II service from the provider.

28 (c) Reimbursement amount.--Consistent with the regulations
29 promulgated under subsection (a), the commission shall reimburse
30 providers of broadband Internet access service in the following

1 amounts:

2 (1) The provider of broadband Internet access service
3 shall receive up to \$50 per month for each eligible household
4 that requests the broadband Internet access service and
5 receives Tier I service.

6 (2) The provider of broadband Internet access service
7 shall receive up to \$30 per month for each eligible household
8 that requests the broadband Internet access service and
9 receives Tier II service.

10 (d) Certification.--To receive a reimbursement under
11 subsection (c), a provider of broadband Internet access service
12 shall certify to the commission the following:

13 (1) The number of eligible households that requested
14 broadband Internet access service and received Tier I
15 service.

16 (2) The number of eligible households that requested
17 broadband Internet access service and received Tier II
18 service.

19 (3) That the reimbursement sought for providing Tier I
20 service or Tier II service to an eligible household did not
21 exceed the provider's rate for that offering, or similar
22 offerings, for households that are not eligible households
23 subscribing to the same or substantially similar service.

24 (4) That the eligible households were not charged for
25 the Tier I service or Tier II service and were not
26 disqualified from receiving service based on past or present
27 arrearages.

28 Section 4. Effective date.

29 This act shall take effect in 60 days.