AN ACT

Providing for public housing broadband Internet benefit.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the Public Housing Broadband Internet Act.

Section 2. Definitions.

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

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


"Eligible household." A household that meets the requirements under section 1437a(b)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383, 88 Stat. 633) that is currently occupying a dwelling under the
jurisdiction of a public housing agency as defined under section 1437a(b)(6) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

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

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

Section 3. Public housing broadband Internet benefit.

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

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

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

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

(c) Reimbursement amount.--Consistent with the regulations promulgated under subsection (a), the commission shall reimburse providers of broadband Internet access service in the following
The provider of broadband Internet access service shall receive up to $50 per month for each eligible household that requests the broadband Internet access service and receives Tier I service.

The provider of broadband Internet access service shall receive up to $30 per month for each eligible household that requests the broadband Internet access service and receives Tier II service.

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

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

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

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

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

Section 4. Effective date.

This act shall take effect in 60 days.