LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

Sixty-first Legislature First Regular Session - 2011

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 26

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND DIRECTING THE LINKIDAHO STATEWIDE BROADBAND COORDINATOR TO REPORT ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LINKIDAHO BROADBAND PROJECT.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the LinkIDAHO Broadband Project is a part of the federal State Broadband Data and Development Program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act with an initial grant of $1.8 million in November 2009 and a supplemental award of $2.65 million in September 2010 to position Idaho to continue the project after five years; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the value of planning and plan implementation; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Legislature to create accountability at the state level for progress on implementation of the broadband plan when it is completed and for successful coordination within the state and to educate the legislators on broadband needs, use and development within the state of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, currently, the state of Idaho shall be designating an entity under the LinkIDAHO planning process to host the coordination of the state broadband policy and to employ an Idaho broadband coordinator; and

WHEREAS, it would be the desire of the Legislature that the coordinating entity do the following: assume the lead role in collecting information, organizing and sharing data, and promoting the development of broadband infrastructure; and develop the capability to enhance broadband communications.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that we request the Commission for Libraries or other entity designated to oversee the Idaho Broadband Plan report to the Legislature annually on the availability of meaningful broadband capabilities in each area of the state and for major economic sectors, areas of deficiency and recommended actions to promote or enhance this critical infrastructure and its effective use in its role of hosting the coordination of the LinkIDAHO Broadband Project and employing the Idaho broadband coordinator.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Governor and the coordinating entity of the LinkIDAHO Broadband Project.