

Second Regular Session  
Seventieth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 16-1010.01 Jennifer Berman x3286

HOUSE BILL 16-1184

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**Rankin**, Hamner, Young

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Grantham**, Lambert, Steadman

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**House Committees**  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF MONEY THAT IS REQUIRED  
102 UNDER EXISTING LAW TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE HIGH  
103 COST SUPPORT MECHANISM TO THE BROADBAND FUND.

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

**Joint Budget Committee.** The public utilities commission provides financial assistance to telecommunications companies that provide basic telephone service or broadband service in areas that lack effective competition by assessing a surcharge on all telecommunications companies in the state and allocating those contributions to the high cost

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

support mechanism (HCSM). A portion of the HCSM is transferred to the broadband fund, which fund is administered by the broadband deployment board (board). The board awards grants for projects aimed at deploying broadband service in unserved areas of the state. From 2016 to 2023, the HCSM surcharge is statutorily reduced by a percentage of the amount of contributions that were allocated to the broadband fund in the previous year.

The bill requires that HCSM funds allocated to the broadband fund be transferred on July 1 of each year and that HCSM money in the broadband fund be continuously appropriated.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 40-15-509.5, **amend**  
3 (4) (a) as follows:

4 **40-15-509.5. Broadband service - report - broadband**  
5 **deployment board - broadband fund - creation - repeal.** (4) (a) There  
6 is hereby created in the state treasury the broadband fund, referred to in  
7 this section as the "fund". The fund consists of all ~~moneys~~ MONEY  
8 allocated from the HCSM to provide access to broadband services  
9 through broadband networks in unserved areas pursuant to section  
10 40-15-208 (2) (a) (I) (B), which ~~moneys~~ MONEY shall be transferred to the  
11 fund ~~upon allocation~~ ON JULY 1 OF EACH YEAR, and all ~~moneys~~ MONEY  
12 that the general assembly may appropriate to the fund. The ~~moneys~~  
13 MONEY in the fund ~~are~~ ALLOCATED FROM THE HCSM IS CONTINUOUSLY  
14 appropriated to the broadband deployment board, created in subsection  
15 (5) of this section, for the purposes set forth in this section. ANY OTHER  
16 MONEY IN THE FUND IS SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE  
17 GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THIS SECTION. All  
18 interest earned from the investment of ~~moneys~~ MONEY in the fund is  
19 credited to the fund. All ~~moneys~~ MONEY not expended at the end of the  
20 fiscal year ~~remain~~ REMAINS in the fund and ~~do~~ DOES not revert to the

1 general fund or any other fund.

2           **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
3 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
4 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.