

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST FOR INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE

To: Legislative Council

Requested by: Representatives Soper and Bacon
With support of: Representative(s) Amabile, Boesenecker, Bradfield, Brown, Clifford, Duran, Evans, Frizell, Hamrick, Hartsook, Hernandez, Joseph, Lieder, Lindsay, Lindstedt, Lynch, Mabrey, Marshall, Martinez, Marvin, Mauro, McCormick, McLachlan, Parenti, Pugliese, Ricks, Rutinel, Snyder, Taggart, Titone, Valdez, Vigil, Weinberg, Willford, Winter T., Woodrow, Young and Senator Liston

Re: Request for interim study committee regarding cell phone connectivity

Date: 4/12/2024

Information Required Pursuant to Section 2-3-303.3, C.R.S.

I hereby request that an interim study committee be formed to study cell phone connectivity during the interim between the 2024 and 2025 legislative sessions. The interim study committee would be named the "Cell Phone Connectivity Interim Study Committee." The purpose of the committee is to study cell phone connectivity in the state with a focus on identifying gaps in cell phone coverage. The committee must focus on:

- major roadways, mountain passes, and popular trailheads;
- rural communities;
- historically disadvantaged communities;
- examining whether maps provided by cell phone companies accurately describe coverage areas; and
- determining state tools and resources that may be utilized to minimize gaps in coverage throughout the state.

The interim study committee would need to meet up to 6 times to study the issues.

The interim study committee consists of 6 members of the General Assembly selected as follows:

- 3 members of the Senate, with 2 appointed by the President of the Senate and 1 appointed by the Minority Leader of the Senate; and
- 3 members of the House of Representatives, with 2 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and 1 appointed by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

Nonlegislative members will have a role in the interim study committee. Their participation is necessary to provide specific industry insight on connectivity. The interim study committee will include the following non-voting nonlegislative members:

- 4 members, appointed by the Governor, who represent the cell phone industry with a presence in the state, as follows:
 - at least 1 cell phone industry representative who represents a company with a presence on the Western Slope;

- at least 1 cell phone industry representative who represents a company with a presence on the Eastern Plains;
- at least 1 cell phone industry representative who represents a company with a presence in the Denver Metro Area;
- 1 member, appointed by the Executive Director of the Department of Transportation, to represent the department; and
- 1 member, appointed by the Executive Director of the Department of Public Safety, to represent the department.

The interim study committee will need up to 3 bills to address the issues it studies.

Additional Information Related to the Interim Study Committee Request

The Departments of Transportation and Public Safety may be called upon to provide information and assistance to the interim study committee.

In order to assess cell phone connectivity for the whole state, the committee will need to take up to 2 field trips per year, outside of the Denver metropolitan area.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.