

**SB 5916-S - DIGEST**

(SUBSTITUTED FOR - SEE 2ND SUB)

Declares it is essential that the legislature authorize a broadband programs management structure and an advisory council capable of developing and ensuring the implementation of statewide broadband strategies.

Provides that the authority for overseeing broadband adoption and deployment efforts in the state is vested in the department of information services.

Authorizes the department of information services to apply for and oversee implementation of federally funded or mandated broadband programs and to adopt rules to administer the programs.

Allows a business and occupation tax credit to a telecommunications company in an amount equal to fifty percent of contributions made in any fiscal year directly to the Washington community technology opportunity account created in RCW 28B.32.030.

Requires leasehold excise taxes collected from a telecommunications company as a result of the company's leasehold interest in publicly owned property to be deposited in the Washington community technology opportunity account and to be used to fund the community technology opportunity program.

Requires the department of information services to reconvene the high-speed internet work group previously established by chapter 262, Laws of 2008. The work group is renamed the advisory council on digital inclusion and is an advisory group to the department.