2SHB 1723 - H AMD **964**
    By Representative Ryu

ADOPTED 02/12/2022

1   On page 3, beginning on line 19, after "to" strike all material

2 through "for" on line 20 and insert "assist low-income persons with

3 the costs of"

4

5   On page 4, beginning on line 21, after "act" strike all material

6 through "persons." on line 22 and insert ". Telecommunications

7 providers determine rates for eligible services. The commission shall,

8 by rule, determine the amount of reimbursement to telecommunications

9 providers under the program."

10

11   On page 4, beginning on line 33, after "levels." strike all

12 material through "poor." on line 36

    EFFECT: Makes the following modifications to the Washington
Broadband Assistance Program (Program):

(1) Provides that the Program is established to assist low-income
persons with the costs of eligible voice and broadband services
rather than to provide low-income persons with reduced rates for
those services.

(2) Provides that telecommunications providers determine rates for
eligible services and requires the Utilities and Transportation
Commission (UTC) to determine the amount of reimbursement to
telecommunications providers rather than the amount of assistance to
to low-income persons.

(3) Eliminates the authority of the UTC to exclude a
telecommunications provider from the Program if it determines the
costs charged to be excessive or the quality of customer service to
be poor.

--- **END** ---