

General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Joint State Government Commission Room 108 Finance Building, 613 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17120 717-787-4397

August 1, 2024

Short summary in response to Senate Resolution 47 of 2019 Delivery of High-Speed Broadband Services in Unserved and Underserved Areas of the Commonwealth

Fifth Annual Report

This is the fifth and final annual report of the Broadband Advisory Committee (BBAC) as directed by Senate Resolution 47 of 2019. New topics discussed include the latest grant and funding opportunities at both the federal and state levels, along with recent information on grants made by the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority (PBDA). New state and local initiatives to expand broadband services are noted. The Federal Communications Commission's latest pronouncements on minimum speed and broadband regulation are reviewed, which provides a framework for discussing the most recent data on coverage and availability of fixed broadband in the Commonwealth, including ongoing efforts to identify Pennsylvania's unserved and underserved communities.

This edition also provides updates on the materials covered in the previous reports. Moreover, a compendium of prior reports' recommendations is included, notable among them being BBAC's recommendation for the creation of the PBDA, which was established by Act 96 of 2021.

The Joint State Government Commission thanks the members of the SR47 Legislative Task Force and BBAC for their efforts over the past five years, which continued uninterrupted through the COVID-19 pandemic.

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