Border-to-Border Broadband: Making Access to High-Speed Internet a Priority in Minnesota

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385,000 households in MN do not have access to high-speed broadband connection to their home.

Lack of broadband creates issues related to:

- Workforce retention
- Economic growth
- Education system modernization
- Access to healthcare services
WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE STATE?

Partner to help close the gap

Convened Task Force

Convene stakeholders

Proposed $100M grant fund (received $20M)

Mapped, collected, validated data

Set Goals

Established an Office of Broadband

Inform policymakers & the public
Governor’s Broadband Task Force

- Members include representatives from industry
- Provides recommendations to ensure all state residents and businesses have ubiquitous access to high-speed broadband
- Responsible for developing an action plan to identify and correct disparities
- Goal is to ensure everyone has access to the tech and information resources they need

[Link to Governor’s Broadband Task Force website]
### Suggestions for advancing tech-heavy policy

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<tr>
<th>Find champions</th>
<th>Keep allies informed &amp; close to the issue</th>
<th>Keep it somewhat simple</th>
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<tr>
<td>Build a bipartisan coalition</td>
<td>Use the “why”</td>
<td>Have a good ground game</td>
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<td>Think through implementation</td>
<td>Use technical jargon carefully</td>
<td>Keep the long haul view (and your sense of humor)</td>
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Future Funding Recommendations

1. $2.9M for program delivery & continued mapping, data collection
2. $200M to the Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant Program
3. $6.6M for Regional Library Telecommunications Aid
4. $9.75M for Telecommunications Aid Equity to schools