



PROVIDING RURAL ACCESS TO BROADBAND INTERNET SERVICES

Public port authorities promote economic development through investment in infrastructure, through:



SEAPORTS



RIVER FACILITIES



AIRPORTS



INDUSTRIAL PARKS

SB 5085 looks to increase broadband availability and economic development throughout the state by granting public entities the eligibility to apply for grant and loan funds through the State Broadband Office.

WASHINGTON PORTS SUPPORT GOV. INSLEE'S BROADBAND BILL

IF...

66% of the projects that applied for CERB planning grants returned for construction funds, then...

8 projects would use an average of \$938,883 per project, for a total of...

\$7,800,000 in construction funds, in order to create...

6,724 new internet connections, with 100% increased internet speed, and add...

29 new internet service providers.

• **PRIORITIZES LOCAL INVESTMENT**— Local goals related to economic development and quality of life—and the broadband speeds needed to achieve them—should be supported by local programs.

Washington Ports are asking to have a voice on the Public Works Board to assist local communities in addressing local infrastructure needs including planning, financing, and construction, repair, or expansion of their infrastructure.

• **UTILIZES A PUBLIC-PRIVATE APPROACH** — To facilitate delivery of meaningful high speed broadband by private telecommunications service providers, public entities—including Washington port authorities—interested in building open access networks should be eligible to apply for grant and loan dollars under the Statewide Broadband Office.

• **ENCOURAGES OPEN ACCESS AND COMPETITION** — State investments should be directed to projects that will be open access, so private sector companies can compete on a level playing field, with business and residential customers benefitting from that competition. The private sector should drive retail options and delivery.

INVEST IN SELF-SUSTAINING MODELS — Public resources should support

WHO BENEFITS?

- **TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS** gain access to new markets without building costly infrastructure.
- **COMMUNITIES**, including local businesses, gain access to high-speed broadband sooner. Because the fiber is open access, provider competition improves service and reduces cost.
- **TAXPAYERS** benefit from a financially-sustainable infrastructure maintenance and improvement model, and a more competitive marketplace.

CURRENTLY, STATE LAW:

PERMITS ports to own dark fiber, and lease it to licensed telecommunications service providers

DOES NOT PERMIT ports to provide direct retail services, nor are ports looking for this