

Date of Hearing: April 28, 2021

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND CONVEYANCE

Miguel Santiago, Chair

AB 1483 (Patterson) – As Introduced February 19, 2021

**SUBJECT:** California Broadband Council: duties

**SUMMARY:** Requires the California Broadband Council (Council) to ensure that relevant state agencies are made aware of actions necessary to fully implement recommendations in the recently adopted 2020 Broadband for All Action Plan (Plan).

**EXISTING LAW:**

- 1) Establishes the Council for the purpose of promoting broadband deployment in unserved and underserved areas of the state, and broadband adoption throughout the state for the benefit of all Californians with specified appointments and duties. (Government Code § 8885 et seq.)
- 2) Requests the Council to create a new state broadband action plan by December 31, 2020 and to review the plan annually thereafter. (Executive Order N-73-20)

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Unknown. This bill has been keyed fiscal by the Legislative Counsel.

**COMMENTS:**

- 1) Author's Statement. The California Broadband Council is currently tasked with coordinating the implementation of recommendations from a task force report that is more than 12 years old. Technology has changed dramatically over the prior decade, and the Governor recently ordered creation of a new report. This bill will ensure the Council's duties reflect the current recommendations for advancing broadband deployment.
- 2) California Broadband Council. The Council was established by SB 1462 Padilla (Chapter 338, Statutes of 2010) to promote broadband deployment in unserved and underserved areas of the state as defined by the California Public Utilities Commission, and broadband adoption throughout the state.

The Council identifies state resources, encourages public and private partnerships, and recommends strategic policy to establish effective structures for providing world class high speed Internet access throughout California. The 12-member council is run by the California Department of Technology's Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy which provides support by managing the statewide ecosystem of individuals and organizations dedicated to closing the digital divide.

- 3) New Action Plan. The first major work done by the Council was the 2008 Broadband Task Force Report. Last year Governor Newsom called for the Council to update their work to incorporate a goal of 100 megabits per second for broadband deployment. That plan was released in December. This bill removes reference to the obsolete 2008 Broadband Task Force Report in current law, and replaces it with the more recent 2020 Broadband for All

Action Plan<sup>1</sup> which will require the council to ensure that it is distributed to all relevant state agencies.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support**

None on file.

**Opposition**

None on file.

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<sup>1</sup> A copy is here: <https://broadbandcouncil.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/68/2020/12/BB4All-Action-Plan-Final.pdf>