

# TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Policy Committee



Association of  
Minnesota Counties



## Broadband Legislative Update

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## **Broadband Funding**

- Governor's Budget Request: \$267 million
- Senate Agriculture, Broadband, and Rural Development Committee
  - Chair, Sen. Aric Putnam
- House Agriculture Finance and Policy Committee
  - Chair, Rep. Samantha Vang



### **SFXXXX/HFXXXX**

- \$267 million split over the next two fiscal years.
- Sen. Judy Seeberger (Afton)
  - Sen. Torrey Westrom, Sen. Aric Putnam, Sen. Grant Hauschild, Sen. Rob Kupec
- Rep. Kristi Pursell (Northfield)
  - Rep. Paul Anderson, Rep. Dave Lislegard, Rep. Samantha Vang, Rep. Nathan Nelson
  - Additional bipartisan authors
- Senate bill will be introduced next week; House bill to follow



## **SF1408/HF1441-Fixed Wireless Statute Change**

- Current law considers a home or business served if they have wireline service that meets state speed goals.
- This bill would add “or fixed wireless” into statute and allow homes within range of a fixed wireless tower to count as served.
- Bill is introduced every year; we play defense against it every year.
- Homes can be within range of a tower and not have service.
  - Topography; vegetation; cloud/fog cover.



## **SF1523/HF1564–Fiber Optic Cable Tax Exemption**

- Fiber optic cable and conduit purchased for use in Minnesota is tax exempt.
- Mostly a benefit to the ISPs, but could bring costs down for a project, allowing dollars to go further.
- Timeline: any products purchased between July 1, 2017 and July 1, 2023. Must be submitted by December 31, 2023.
- Incentivizes using the best technology available.
- Bipartisan support.



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# THANK YOU!

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