STATE OF NEW YORK

2024

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 14, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SMULLEN, McDONOUGH, TAGUE, PALMESANO, MANKTELOW, LEMONDES, DeSTEFANO, ANGELINO, E. BROWN, BEEPHAN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

AN ACT to amend the tax law and the state finance law, in relation to establishing the New York state rural mobile communications fund

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 5 of section 186-f of the tax law, as added by section 3 of part B of chapter 56 of the laws of 2009, is amended to read as follows:

(a) forty-one and seven-tenths of the revenues collected and received under this section into the [~~state general~~] **New York state rural mobile communications** fund **established pursuant to section ninety-nine-g**; and

§ 2. The state finance law is amended by adding a new section 99-g to read as follows:

§ 99-g. New York state rural mobile communications fund. 1. Establishment of the fund. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the state comptroller and the commissioner of taxation and finance a special fund to be known as the New York state rural mobile communications fund. Moneys in this account shall be kept separate and not commingled with any other moneys in the custody of the comptroller.

2. Source of funds. The sum equal to the amount identified in paragraph (a) of subdivision five of section one hundred eighty-six-f of the tax law shall be credited to the fund.

3. Use of funds. Such moneys shall be used for the purpose of providing rural areas, as defined in subdivision eight of section two hundred sixty of the agriculture and markets law, in the state with grants for the purpose of increasing cellular service in low- to no-coverage areas. Priority shall be given to applicants in rural areas who can identify public safety concerns resulting from lack of cellular service.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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§ 3. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date upon which it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.