STATE OF NEW YORK

5004

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 3, 2017

Introduced by Sen. BAILEY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Energy and Telecommunications

AN ACT to require the public service commission to undertake a study on various approaches to increasing broadband access within this state; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

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

Section 1. The public service commission shall, within thirty days of the effective date of this act, undertake a study on various approaches to increasing broadband access within this state. The public service commission shall study and make determinations on issues including but not limited to: (i) current broadband capacity within this state, including average internet access speeds statewide and in various regions of the state; (ii) regulatory and statutory barriers to improving broadband speeds; (iii) comparative state policies that have aided the increase in broadband speeds in other states, and whether such measures would be similarly effective in this state; (iv) whether the use of public-private partnerships would aid in the goal of increasing broadband speeds, and whether relevant businesses would be open to such partnerships; and (v) best practices recommended within the National Broadband Plan issued by the Federal Communications Commission and whether the public service commission can readily adopt and put into place any such recommendations.

§ 2. The public service commission may conduct any hearings or take any written testimony as it deems necessary in order to aid such study, and shall take all other steps necessary to provide a thorough analysis of all issues related to the provisions listed in section one of this act.

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

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§ 3. The public service commission shall issue its final report no later than one hundred eighty days after the effective date of this act. The commission shall issue its final report to the governor, the speaker of the assembly, the temporary president of the senate, and the chair of the assembly committee on energy and the senate committee on energy and telecommunications, and post a copy of such report on its website.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire one year after the day on which this act shall have become a law.