STATE OF NEW YORK

594--C

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 6, 2021

Introduced by Sen. MAY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Rules -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- recommitted to the Committee on Local Government in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general municipal law, in relation to Internet access and communications for municipalities

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

Section 1. The general municipal law is amended by adding a new section 99-y to read as follows:

§ 99-y. Internet access and communications. 1. The governing body of any municipal corporation is hereby authorized and empowered to establish, construct, and maintain broadband and related telecommunications infrastructure, or to contract for the construction and maintenance of such services with a corporation or nonprofit organization, and for the maintenance, care, and replacement of infrastructure in connection therewith, if such governing body finds that such facilities are necessary. Such municipal corporation shall be authorized to operate directly, or contract for the provision of, such broadband services within such municipal corporation. For the purposes of this section, "nonprofit organization" shall mean a corporation having tax exempt status under section 501 (c) (3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, or any organization incorporated under the not-for-profit corporation law.

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

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2. Any municipal corporation that has established, constructed and maintained broadband and related telecommunications infrastructure, or contracted for such services pursuant to subdivision one of this section may, for the purpose of providing funds for such services, issue and sell bonds or other municipal obligations as provided in the local finance law and other applicable law and statutes. Principal and interest payments on such bonds or other municipal obligations may be made in whole or in part from any proceeds from such broadband services.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.