



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2025 Biennium

**Bill information:**

SB0531 - Generally review broadband deployment laws (Salomon, Daniel R)

**Status:** As Introduced

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact     | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2             | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached |

### FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2024 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2025 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2026 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027 Difference</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue	Cannot Be Determined	Cannot Be Determined	Cannot Be Determined	Cannot Be Determined
<b>Revenue:</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Federal Special Revenue	Cannot Be Determined	Cannot Be Determined	Cannot Be Determined	Cannot Be Determined
<b>Net Impact-General Fund Balance:</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**Description of fiscal impact:** This legislation revises the state’s Communications Advisory Commission and updates definitions and requirements related to the state’s deployment of broadband funds received as part of the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), Public Law 117-58. All funding will be federal special revenue received from the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The total amount of federal revenue to be received, and the timeline to complete these broadband projects, is not yet known.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

**Assumptions:**

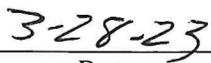
**Department of Administration**

1. The total amount of federal revenue received from the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) will be based on an analysis done by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).
2. The NTIA’s analysis will be based on the state’s submission of a five-year action plan and the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) release of updated national data maps.
3. The method and timeline for NTIA to calculate Montana’s allocation has not been determined by NTIA and is contingent upon the FCC data maps.

4. The date of the FCC data maps release is unknown.
5. The Department of Administration’s deadline, imposed by NTIA’s award of the initial planning funds, is 270 calendar days from December 12, 2022. The five-year action plan will be reviewed and approved by the advisory commission no later than August 1, 2023, and submitted by the Department of Administration to NTIA on or before the deadline of September 8, 2023.
6. After NTIA determines Montana’s allocation of federal funds, Montana has 180 calendar days to submit the state’s Initial Proposal. Upon approval by NTIA, 20% of the allocation will be released to Montana.
7. Twelve months after approval of the Initial Proposal, Montana must submit a Final Proposal to receive the remaining 80% of the allocation.
8. Subgrant awards, program monitoring, and reporting will commence upon NTIA’s approval of the Initial Proposal and continue with approval of the Final Proposal until completed. The overall timeline, however, cannot be determined.
9. The Department of Administration is authorized to spend up to 2% of the total federal funds awarded to support program administrative costs and expenditures. The amount of administrative costs and expenditures, however, cannot be determined at this time.
10. No additional FTE are required to administer these awards. Current ConnectMT broadband staff of 4.00 FTE, funded by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) 602 funds, will be retained to administer the IIJA NTIA broadband program.
11. The ConnectMT program will also utilize consultant services to assist with program administration. The amount of consultant services, however, cannot be determined at this time.

**Long-Term Impacts:**

1. Implementation of the IIJA NTIA federal funding is expected to take a minimum of five years after NTIA’s approval of Montana’s allocation.

			
<i>Sponsor’s Initials</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Budget Director’s Initials</i>	<i>Date</i>