HLS 25RS-2109 ORIGINAL

2025 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY REPRESENTATIVE DESHOTEL

UTILITIES: Memorializes the United States Congress to release funds from the BEAD program

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To memorialize the United States Congress to immediately and fully release the Broadband
3	Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program funds.
4	WHEREAS, equitable and reliable access to high-speed broadband is essential to the
5	health, education, safety, prosperity, and competitiveness of every citizen, business, and
6	community across Louisiana; and
7	WHEREAS, the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program,
8	established by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, represents a historic opportunity
9	to close the digital divide by investing over one billion dollars in broadband expansion for
10	unserved and underserved areas in Louisiana; and
11	WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana, through the office of broadband connectivity and
12	development, or ConnectLA, developed a comprehensive, technology-neutral, and federally
13	approved broadband action plan, demonstrating full compliance with congressional and
14	National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) requirements; and
15	WHEREAS, Louisiana's broadband deployment effort is shovel-ready, with
16	contractors hired, equipment staged, and skilled workers prepared to break ground
17	immediately; and
18	WHEREAS, continued delay in the release of BEAD deployment funds is already
19	causing actual harm to Louisiana broadband companies, construction firms, manufacturers,
20	workers, students, and families, jeopardizing economic growth, job creation, and essential
21	public services; and

1	WHEREAS, broadband infrastructure is foundational for Louisiana's future, enabling
2	small business success, agricultural innovation, educational opportunity, telehealth
3	expansion, public safety advancements, and rural revitalization; and
4	WHEREAS, Governor Jeff Landry, working alongside Louisiana's congressional
5	delegation, has called for immediate federal action to approve Louisiana's BEAD
6	deployment funding; and
7	WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature stands united with the governor and the
8	Louisiana congressional delegation in championing Louisiana's readiness, in defending the
9	interests of Louisiana's people, and in insisting that the federal government honor its
10	commitments without further delay.
11	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
12	memorialize the United States Congress and join with Governor Jeff Landry and the
13	Louisiana congressional delegation in calling for the immediate and full release of BEAD
14	Program deployment funds to the state of Louisiana.
15	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby affirm
16	Louisiana's full compliance with federal requirements and readiness for broadband
17	deployment, and expresses its unwavering support for this critical effort to expand
18	opportunity and prosperity in every corner of the state.
19	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge
20	the United States Department of Commerce and the National Telecommunications and
21	Information Administration to act promptly to release Louisiana's BEAD deployment
22	funding without further delay, so that Louisiana's workers, families, and businesses can
23	realize the transformative benefits Congress intended.
24	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
25	governor, the commissioner of administration, the executive director of ConnectLA, the
26	secretary of United States Department of Commerce, the acting assistant secretary of the
27	National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and each member of the
28	Louisiana congressional delegation.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 56 Original

2025 Regular Session

Deshotel

Memorializes the United States Congress to immediately and fully release the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program funds.