

May 18, 2000

S 1343. RURAL INTERNET ACCESS AGENCY (=H 1611). *TO CREATE THE NORTH CAROLINA RURAL INTERNET ACCESS AGENCY.* Identical to H 1611, introduced 5/18/00.

Intro. by Reeves and Kerr.

Ref. to Information Tech.	GS 143B
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June 7, 2000

S 1343. RURAL INTERNET ACCESS. Intro. 5/18/00. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Changes from Rural Internet Agency under Rural Redevelopment Authority to NC Rural Internet Authority under Dep't of Commerce. Provides that authority is governed by 21 member commission with six members appointed by Governor, six members appointed by General Assembly upon recommendation by President Pro Tempore, six appointed by General Assembly upon recommendation of Speaker, the State's Chief Information Officer, Chair of NC Rural Economic Center, and Sec'y of Commerce. Appointed members to come from the same specified interest groups as original bill. Requires Rural Economic Development Center, Inc. to provide staff support for authority and requires authority to set specific targets to achieve goals.

June 13, 2000

S 1343. RURAL INTERNET ACCESS AGENCY. Intro. 5/18/00. Senate amendments make the following changes to 2nd edition. Specify that the State Auditor has audit oversight of the Rural Internet Access Authority pursuant to GS Ch. 147, Art. 5A, and require the Authority to submit quarterly reports to the Governor, the Joint Select Committee on Information Technology, and the Joint Legislative Comm'n on Governmental Operations, summarizing its activities and containing any information about the activities that the Governor, the Committee, or the Comm'n request. Provide that the two Telework Centers that are a goal or objective of the Authority should be established in existing facilities to the extent possible, and that they are model, not pilot, centers.

June 28, 2000

S 1343. RURAL INTERNET ACCESS AUTH. Intro. 5/17/200. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Changes title to "TO CREATE THE NORTH CAROLINA RURAL INTERNET ACCESS AUTHORITY AND TO DIRECT THE REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE NORTH CAROLINA RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER, TO STUDY AND REPORT ON THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY NEEDS OF THE STATE." Adds to proposed GS 143B-437.42 that the purpose of the authority is to advise and make recommendations to the Governor, General Assembly, and the NC Rural Redevelopment Authority regarding efforts to provide rural counties with high-speed broadband Internet access. Establishes staggered terms for members of the authority. Specifies that the members of the regional partnerships are the Western NC Regional Economic Development Comm'n, the Northeastern NC Regional Economic Development Comm'n, the Southeastern NC Regional Economic Development Comm'n, the Global TransPark Development Comm'n, the Carolinas Partnership, the Research Triangle Regional Partnership, and the Piedmont Triad Partnership. Each regional partnership is to study the information technology needs of each county in its region. Dissolves the authority Dec. 31, 2003, and repeals the act the same date.

July 6, 2000

S 1343. RURAL INTERNET ACCESS AUTHORITY. Intro. 5/18/00. Conference report recommends the following changes to 4th edition to reconcile matters in controversy. Provides that purpose of the Authority is to "manage, oversee, and monitor" efforts to provide rural internet access (was, to "advise and make recommendations"). Deletes provisions requiring that persons appointed to the Authority represent specifically described constituencies and substitutes general admonition that appointing authorities shall consider specific constituencies in making their appointments. States that Authority members shall comply with GS 14-234, prohibiting conflicts of interest, and requires any member, officer, or employee of Authority to disclose any direct or

indirect ownership interest in any firm or corporation, not including units of local government, with which the Authority has a contractual relationship. Such disclosure must be set forth in Authority's minutes, and the person making the disclosure may not participate in authorization of the contract. Adds provision that Authority does not have the power of eminent domain or the power to tax. Adds requirement that Authority make quarterly reports to Governor, Joint Select Committee on Information Technology, and Joint Legislative Comm'n on Governmental Operations.