

# TABLED



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AMENDMENT  
Senate Bill 257

AMENDMENT NO. A13  
(to be filled in by  
Principal Clerk)

S257-AMQ-8 [v.4]

Page 1 of 2

Amends Title [NO]  
Second Edition

Date \_\_\_\_\_, 2017

Senator Smith-Ingram

1 moves to amend the bill on page 237, lines 15-16 by inserting between those lines the  
2 following new section to read:

3  
4 **"EXPAND STATEWIDE BROADBAND ACCESS**

5 **SECTION 15.14.(a)** Notwithstanding G.S. 143B-472.127, of the funds  
6 appropriated in this act to the Department of Commerce, eight million dollars (\$8,000,000)  
7 shall be allocated to the Rural Economic Development Division to establish Broadband  
8 Deployment Grants for last-mile or middle-mile infrastructure projects. Grants are to be  
9 technology-neutral. Projects must deploy technology with scalable speeds up to 100Mbps  
10 download for wireline and 25Mbps download for fixed wireless. Applicants must have  
11 completed a community broadband plan. Eligible applicants include:

- 12 1. First Priority: A city, village, town, or county that has established a  
13 partnership or arrangement with a qualified organization or qualified Internet  
14 Service Provider that is currently providing internet service at the time of  
15 enactment.
- 16 2. Second Priority: A telephone (TMC) or electrical membership cooperative  
17 (EMC), Internet Service Provider (ISP), or Microelectronics Center of North  
18 Carolina (MCNC).

19 **SECTION 15.14.(b)** Notwithstanding G.S. 143B-472.127, of the funds  
20 appropriated in this act to the Department of Commerce, three million dollars (\$3,000,000)  
21 shall be allocated to the Rural Economic Development Division to establish Network Design  
22 and Planning Grants to allow the state to determine the specific location of existing broadband  
23 infrastructure through asset inventories and studies that determine the location of current fiber  
24 infrastructure, provider points of presence, middle-mile assets and build-out needs. Eligible  
25 applicants include:

- 26 1. Counties, units of local government, regional councils of government, or  
27 regional consortiums or partnerships.
- 28 2. MCNC or electrical membership cooperatives (EMCs).

29 **SECTION 15.14.(c)** Notwithstanding G.S. 143B-472.127, of the funds  
30 appropriated in this act to the Department of Commerce, one million dollars (\$1,000,000) shall  
31 be allocated to the Rural Economic Development Division to Community Planning Grants to  
32 identify existing infrastructure and gaps in coverage to assist the local government in fostering



\* S 2 5 7 - A M Q - 8 - V - 4 \*

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AMENDMENT  
Senate Bill 257

**TABLED**

AMENDMENT NO. A13  
(to be filled in by  
Principal Clerk)

S257-AMQ-8 [v.4]

Page 2 of 2

1 new broadband deployments; to produce plans that define local broadband needs, goals and to  
2 encourage adoption of identified best practices by participating municipalities and  
3 organizations. Applicants shall be subject to a match requirement based upon level of distress  
4 using the Department of Commerce's 2016 County Tier Designations. Matching funds can be  
5 from public or private dollars. Eligible applicants include:

- 6 1. A North Carolina city, village, town, or county.
- 7 2. A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, including a cooperative.

8 **SECTION 15.14.(d)** Of the funds transferred from the Utility Account (24609-  
9 2568) to the Expanded Gas Products Service to Agriculture Fund (24609-2539) for the 2017-  
10 2018 fiscal year, the sum of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) shall be transferred to the Rural  
11 Economic Development Division (14600-1534) for the purposes provided in this section.";

12  
13 and further moves to amend the bill on page 4, line 32, by reducing the amount by ten million  
14 dollars (\$10,000,000) for the 2017-2018 fiscal year;

15  
16 and further moves to amend the bill on page 3, line 8, by increasing the amount by ten million  
17 dollars (\$10,000,000) for the 2017-2018 fiscal year;

18  
19 and by adjusting the appropriate totals accordingly.

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
Amendment Sponsor

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair if Senate Committee Amendment

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ FAILED \_\_\_\_\_ TABLED \_\_\_\_\_