

## **Department of Planning and Budget**

### **2022 Fiscal Impact Statement**

**1. Bill Number:** SB716

<b>House of Origin</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/> Engrossed
<b>Second House</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Substitute	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Petersen

**3. Committee:** Passed both Houses.

**4. Title:** Department of Housing and Community Development; broadband affordability plan.

**5. Summary:** Directs the Department of Housing and Community Development (the Department) to develop a plan, to be known as the Commonwealth Digital Affordability and Cost Effectiveness Plan (the Plan), to access federal funding under the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L. 117-58). In order to achieve this goal, the Department shall apply for funding through a planning grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The Plan shall include (i) an overview of options for affordable broadband connectivity in the Commonwealth; (ii) recommendations on how best to leverage federal grants addressing broadband affordability; (iii) best practices for establishing a broadband affordability program, taking into account existing federal funds and programs; and (iv) recommendations for public outreach, with consideration of the report submitted by the Department of Social Services as required in Item 359 L of Chapter 552 of the Acts of Assembly of 2021, Special Session I. The Department shall report the Plan to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 1, 2022.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Final.

**8. Fiscal Implications:** It is anticipated that any costs associated with this bill can be absorbed within current resources of the Department of Housing and Community Development.

**9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** Department of Housing and Community Development

**10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No.

**11. Other Comments:** HB1265 is the companion to this bill.