



STATE *of* NEBRASKA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
LINCOLN

**EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 23-02**

**ENHANCING BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT COORDINATION**

**WHEREAS**, Nebraska recognizes the importance of expanding reliable, high-speed internet service across Nebraska

**WHEREAS**, broadband availability is a critical need for Nebraska communities and households—especially in rural areas of the state which are the most likely to lack wireline broadband and to lag in broadband adoption;

**WHEREAS**, the Nebraska Legislature has determined that communities and rural areas lacking broadband have a critical need for improved broadband service in order to enable residents in those areas to work at home, participate in online education, access health care via telehealth, and improve economic vitality;

**WHEREAS**, the State of Nebraska has been awarded federal funding under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to develop strategic plans to expand high-speed broadband service; and

**WHEREAS**, the expansion of high-speed broadband service to unserved and underserved areas requires statewide coordination and leadership from the Executive Branch.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jim Pillen, Governor of the State of Nebraska, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution, hereby establish the Office of the Broadband Coordinator. The Broadband Coordinator function will operate under the guidance and direction of the Nebraska Department of Transportation and the Office of the Governor and will operate with the following purposes and charges:

1. Provide for policy level direction related to the planning and decisions regarding development, operation, and sustainability of high-speed broadband service in the State of Nebraska;

2. Work openly and collaboratively with relevant government agencies and other stakeholders to ensure that broadband deployment is strategic, cost-effective and that recipients of funding are accountable for their use of public funds;
3. Lead efforts to incorporate participation of and engagement with the communities with critical broadband needs and relevant stakeholders to shape program implementation and operations;
4. Work in collaboration with government agencies to create and maintain an official Nebraska location fabric broadband access map to accurately show broadband availability for all serviceable locations in the State of Nebraska;
5. Lead efforts with government agencies and stakeholders to develop directives and strategies for best utilization of federal funds, including grants, to improve broadband connectivity in Nebraska.

**IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed on this 6th day of January 2023.

  
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Jim Pillen, Governor  
State of Nebraska

Attest:

  
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Robert Evnen, Secretary of State  
State of Nebraska

