

SENATE BILL 2005

By Green

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7,
Chapter 52, Part 6, relative to additional
authorization to provide broadband services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-52-601, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(f)

(1) In addition to the authorization otherwise provided under this section or under otherwise applicable law, a municipal electric system of a municipality that has a population of not less than one hundred twenty-five thousand (125,000), according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census, which includes at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the total population, according to the same federal census, of the county in which the municipality is located, may, in accordance with this part, operate fiber optic facilities and use such facilities to provide video, Internet and other broadband services to:

(A) An industrial park containing at least ten (10) acres in the county where the municipality is located; or

(B) Commercial or industrial customers in the county where the municipality is located if the customers participate in or receive benefits, or have participated in or received benefits, under one (1) or more programs of the department of economic and community development of

any other state or a federally sponsored or supported economic development program.

(2) Prior to providing any such services outside of its electric system service area, the municipal electric system shall obtain the written consent of each electric cooperative or municipal electric system in whose territory the system will provide such services.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.