Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

Bill Number: 2365 HB	**Title:** Digital opportunities

Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2025-27				2027-29				2029-31			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outloo	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Office of the Governor	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Department of Commerce	4.7	2,206,411	2,206,411	2,206,411	9.3	4,362,822	4,362,822	4,362,822	9.3	4,362,822	4,362,822	4,362,822
Utilities and Transportation Commission	.3	0	0	76,834	.3	0	0	76,834	.3	0	0	76,834
Department of Social and Health Services	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Superintendent of Public Instruction	.0	7,000	7,000	7,000	.0	0	0	0	.0	0	0	0
Total $	**5.0**	**2,213,411**	**2,213,411**	**2,290,245**	**9.6**	**4,362,822**	**4,362,822**	**4,439,656**	**9.6**	**4,362,822**	**4,362,822**	**4,439,656**

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

Agency Name	2025-27			2027-29			2029-31		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Office of the Governor	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Office of the Governor									
Department of Commerce	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Commerce									
Utilities and Transportation Commission	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Utilities and Transportation Commission									
Department of Social and Health Services	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Department of Social and Health Services									
Superintendent of Public Instruction	.0	0	0	.0	0	0	.0	0	0
Superintendent of Public Instruction									
Total $	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**

FNPID: 75596

FNS029 Multi Agency rollup

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

NONE

Prepared by: Marie Davis, OFM	**Phone:** (360) 890-1163	**Date Published:** Final 1/23/2026

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2365 HB	Title: Digital opportunities	Agency: 075-Office of the Governor

Part I: Estimates

[X] **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:
NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

[ ] If fiscal impact is greater than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.

[ ] If fiscal impact is less than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

[ ] Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

[ ] Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Emily Poole	Phone: 360-786-7106	Date: 01/13/2026
Agency Preparation:	Kathy Cody	Phone: (360) 480-7237	Date: 01/16/2026
Agency Approval:	Jamie Langford	Phone: (360) 870-7766	Date: 01/16/2026
OFM Review:	Val Terre	Phone: (360) 280-3073	Date: 01/20/2026

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

House Bill 2365 updates and expands statutes related to broadband access, digital equity, and digital inclusion.

The bill removes the following roles from the Office of Equity:

- Administering, staffing, and appointing members to the Digital Equity Forum. The Office of Equity will still provide consultative services to the appointing authority, the Director of the Statewide Broadband Office.
- Providing staff for the Digital Equity Forum.
- Transmitting the recommendations of the Digital Equity Forum to the legislature.

Currently, the Office of Equity is required to complete this work within the amounts appropriated; therefore, this change will not have a fiscal impact.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2365 HB	Title: Digital opportunities	Agency: 103-Department of Commerce

Part I: Estimates

☐ **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years	0.0	9.3	4.7	9.3	9.3
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	0	2,206,411	2,206,411	4,362,822	4,362,822
Total $	0	2,206,411	2,206,411	4,362,822	4,362,822

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

☒ If fiscal impact is greater than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.

☐ If fiscal impact is less than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Emily Poole	Phone: 360-786-7106	Date: 01/13/2026
Agency Preparation:	Kari Newitt	Phone: (360) 725-2711	Date: 01/19/2026
Agency Approval:	Erin LaLonde	Phone: (360) 725-4060	Date: 01/19/2026
OFM Review:	Marie Davis	Phone: (360) 890-1163	Date: 01/19/2026

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

Section 2 amends RCW 43.330.532 to expand the purpose of the Washington State Broadband Office (WSBO) to include "broadband adoption and digital equity."

Section 3(5) includes requirement for WSBO to include updated information regarding eligibility and enrollment for the federal Lifeline Program and low-cost internet service plans in its outreach effort to hard-to-reach/low-income communities, unless this information is already publicly available elsewhere. It also requires that this outreach effort must be reviewed annually by the Digital Equity Forum.

Section 3(6) expands shall consider collaboration to include federally recognized tribes, relevant state agencies, the Department of Social and Health Services and Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Section 4 amends RCW 43.330.539 to require that the WSBO must now coordinate, implementation of, and monitor progress in the state digital equity plan, not just develop it. This includes consultation with all relevant state agencies to implement the state digital equity plan.

Section 4(1) requires the WSBO to seek federal and other funding to implement the state digital equity plan.

Section 4(3) requires a new biennial legislative report to be submitted by January 1, 2027 and every two years thereafter. This report is expanded to include an evaluation of the progress made in implementing the state digital equity plan along with an assessment of existing statewide initiatives, policies, programs, funding needs and public/private investments, plus a recommended model for future program infrastructure and outreach investments, and to describe current and foreseeable future funding available to advance digital equity that builds from the 2024 Internet for All in Washington Digital Equity Plan funded by the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Section 4(3) this report can be combined with the WSBO's current biennial legislative report under RCW 43.330.538.

Section 5 amends RCW 43.330.5395 pertaining to the Digital Equity Forum (DEF).

Section 5(2) adds responsibilities to the DEF to increase collaboration and communication with tribal governments and other partners to make recommendations on sustainable digital equity funding and to bring related issues within its scope for consideration.

It expands the DEF's responsibilities to include consulting directly with the WSBO and other agencies on the state digital equity plan and its implementation. It also expands the DEF's scope to review WSBO's outreach efforts, and provide feedback on grant programs.

Section 5(3) that the WSBO and Office of Equity directors appoint Forum members in consultation with the DEF chair(s). Requires that the WSBO Director add consideration for appointing members from broadband service providers, technology industry, philanthropy, health and legal/justice sectors.

Section 5(6) amends allowable compensation for DEF members from travel reimbursement only to allowing stipends for equity implementation purposes when members aren't otherwise compensated.

Section 5(7)(b) allows the Forum to provide additional recommendations beyond the biennial legislative report, at the discretion of the chair(s) and in alignment to the adopted DEF charter.

Section 6 amends RCW 43.330.412 and renames the digital equity opportunity program to the digital opportunity program

and adds new eligible activities including:

Section 6(1)(a) requires the WSBO to identify and provide organizational support and capacity building to regional coalitions supporting digital equity advancement across the state.

Section 6(1)(a)(ii) stipulates that the WSBO enable local and regional directories of digital equity program services, community needs assessments, and tracking of lower cost broadband offerings in connection with the implementation and evaluation of grant programs.

Section 6(3) clarifies the scope of review of this grant program to be provided by the DEF. The DEF may now provide input on guidelines and criteria rather than review and provide input on individual grant applications.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

None

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

The proposed legislation is modernizes Washington's digital equity framework and will require significant staff time on an ongoing basis to achieve all the proposed activities included in Sections 3-6.

Departmental assumptions:

Stipend and community compensation assumptions:

Under the proposed amendment to Sec. 5(6), the Department of Commerce (Department) assumes a maximum of 40 members (excluding alternates) of the Digital Equity Forum (DEF) based on the community compensation guidelines.

The Department also assumes that 10 out of 40 DEF members will have child and adult care needs per the community compensation guidelines published by the Office of Equity and all costs assume their provided $57 hourly rate. The Department also assumes five DEF members will need child care support and five DEF members will need adult care services.

DEF public meetings are assumed to be 2 hours each x 4 meetings annually x 40 DEF members = $18,240 FY27-FY31. Childcare costs are assumed to be 5 DEF member families x 4 meeting x $25 per hour = $1,000 annually FY27-FY31. Adult care costs are assumed to be 5 DEF members x 4 meetings x $34 per hour = $1,360 annually FY27-FY31. DEF stipend and community compensation subtotal = $20,600

Under Section 3(5) and DEF support for WSBO's outreach effort to hard-to-reach and low-income communities, DEF members would require stipends for 1 hour x 40 members x $57/hour = $2,280 annually from FY27-FY31.

DEF workgroup meetings 1 hour per month = $27,360. Childcare: up to $25 per hour = $1,500 per year for 5 DEF members. Adult care: up to $34 per hour = $2,040 per year for 5 DEF members. Subtotal = $30,900

DEF co-chair meetings monthly for 1 hour = $1,368. Childcare: up to $25 per hour = $300 per year for 1 DEF co-chair. Adult care: up to $34 per hour = $408 per year for 1 DEF co-chair. Subtotal = $2,076.

Add 2 hours per month for each member to participate in all the other elements in Section 5(2): $57 x 40 members x 2 hours x 12 months = $54,720

Section 6(3) requires community compensation for DEF members on WSBO grant guidelines and criteria for reviews: 4 hours per member (40) x $57 annually beginning FY27-FY31 = $9,120

Section 5(2) (h-i) requires the DEF to review WSBO's annual outreach effort and feedback on all grant programs: $57 x 2 hours x 40 members = $4,560 annual review and feedback on outreach effort. $57 x 2 hours x 40 members = $4,560 for annual review of WSBO's digital equity grants. Total = $9,120

Section 5(2)(g) requires DEF community compensation time to meet with WSBO, any local, state and federal agency. The Department assumes that each of the 40 members will need at least 2 hours per month to provide consultation to any governmental agency in the United States. $57 per hour * 40 members x 2 hours per month x 12 months = $54,720

The total combined DEF's stipend/community compensation amount = $183,536 annually beginning FY27-FY31 on an ongoing basis

Legal consultation services assumptions:

Based on previous experience, the Department assumes that the DEF will require legal consultation with the Attorney General's Office. Section 5(2)(g), 5(3)(c) and Section 5(7)(b) broadens the DEF scope to include private and legal sector membership appointments to the DEF; consultation with any state, local and federal agency on topics related to digital equity which will require regular and ongoing monthly consultation fees from the Department's AAG on an ongoing basis from FY27-FY31.

Translations/interpretation assumptions:

The Department assumes that Section 3 will require translations of information about the availability of ISP's low cost broadband options. Section 4 would require translations of digital equity plan documents and outreach materials. Section 5 would require outreach and engagement with translated materials to increase awareness of digital equity needs.

The Department assumes that this bill expands the WSBO's purpose by encouraging collaboration with all relevant state agencies, local governments and community anchor institutions. It requires the WSBO to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate the state digital equity. It also requires that WSBO consider collaborating with federally recognized tribes which the Department assumes will increase the funding needed for government-to-government consultation.

The Department assumes that the WSBO's updated requirement in Section 3(b) and Section 4(1) requires coordination with all relevant state agencies that can provide input on the implementation, monitoring of the digital equity plan's progress and broadband adoption would include almost 200 state government agencies (190 agencies, departments and commissions; 9 independently elected officials).

The Department assumes that all state agencies will send one representative to attend two 2-hour virtual meetings per year hosted by WSBO to develop and implement the state digital equity plan on an ongoing basis.

This will entail staff time to coordinate, communicate and bring feedback back to WSBO to integrate into the digital equity plan on an ongoing basis.

The Department assumes WSBO will dedicate new staff to coordinating, gathering, and marketing information about Lifeline and low-cost broadband plans.

The Department assumes that Section 3(b) includes 14,000 statewide community anchor institutions (CAIs) listed in the Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Volume I which broadens WSBO's the scope of outreach and engagement.

For illustrative purposes, the Department assumes in Section 4 that the baseline cost to implement two of the strategies identified previously in the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Internet for All digital

equity plan would be $26.64 million.

The Department was awarded $15,983,291 for FY22-FY24 as this was the amount awarded to Washington by the NTIA for the Digital Equity Capacity grant, which was later rescinded by the federal Department of Commerce. For these purposes of this fiscal note, the Department assumes additional state allocations to implement the state digital equity plan would be consistent to proposed federal allocations for the 2024 Digital Equity Plan, and WSBO would require $10.66 million in the two-year fiscal biennium after an initial $15.98 million appropriation.

The Department assumes that the WSBO will be responsible for developing a state digital equity plan based on the 2024 Internet for All Plan submitted to NTIA. This will require WSBO to spend FY27 updating and identifying strategies to implement digital equity in Washington that would result in a Departmental budget request for the funds required to implement an updated state digital equity plan. This work will include collaboration with relevant state agencies and the DEF during the meeting scheduled noted in this narrative.

The Department assumes that WSBO will be responsible for implementing and evaluating progress of the state digital equity plan in FY28-FY31 in collaboration with relevant state agencies, community anchor institutions and other stakeholders. This will require additional ongoing staffing as noted in the FTE assumptions.

For illustrative purposes, the Department assumes that the additions made in Section 6 minimally impact the expansion of the digital opportunity program. While this grant program is subject appropriation, the Department assumes that a hypothetical appropriation of $5 million would result in the award of 20 complex and high risk contracts.

The Department assumes that Section 5(2)(g) regarding DEF coordination with “agencies” refers to any local, state and federal government agency about digital equity plan implementation.

0.1 FTE Management Analyst 4 (209 hours) to communicate with Washington state’s 247 internet service providers (Source: BroadbandNow.com) to collect and provide information in an accessible format for posting on the website and updating this list on a continual basis under Section 3(5) ongoing from FY27-FY31.

1.0 FTE Management Analyst 4 (2,088 hours) to conduct research, data collection and writing to present and communicate data on the digital equity plan, integrate data into the agency tracking platform and update the plan based on partner feedback based on Section 4(1) ongoing from FY27-FY31.

0.1 FTE Management Analyst 4 (209 hours) for collecting, organizing and communicating data ongoing from FY27-FY31 based on Section 4(1)(a)(c).

0.3 FTE Management Analyst 4 (627 hours) to research and verify data for the updates in the legislative report; establish and update an inventory of all these initiatives, policies and programs including the identification of funding needs via surveys and focus groups beginning in FY27 and every two years on an ongoing basis based on Section 4(3)(d).

0.2 FTE Management Analyst 4 (418 hours) to conduct community needs assessments and tracking low-cost broadband options for the implementation and evaluation of grant programs on an ongoing basis from FY27-FY31 based on Section 6(1)(a)(ii).

0.1 FTE Commerce Specialist 3 (209 hours) for preparation and engagement with 29 federally recognized tribes annual basis from FY27 through FY31 the WSBO’s purpose, including issues regarding broadband adoption and access based on Section 3(6).

1.0 FTE Commerce Specialist 3 (2,088 hours) for outreach and engagement with all state agencies, tribes and CAIs noted in BEAD Volume I; provide writing support to update the plan and communicate ongoing changes as the team is coordinating with all partners based on Section 4(1) ongoing from FY27-FY31.

1.0 FTE Commerce Specialist 3 (2,088 hours) to develop and issue RFPs or NOFOs, manage contracts, process payments,

conduct site visits, and provide technical assistance and monitoring based on Section 4(1) ongoing from FY27-FY31.

0.5 FTE Commerce Specialist 3 (1,044 hours) for prospect research to seek diverse funding sources, write proposals and follow up communications with funders ongoing from FY27-FY31 based on Section 4(1)(a)(c).

0.1 FTE Commerce Specialist 3 (209 hours) to provide input and updates on the new programs and initiatives beginning in FY27 and every two years on an ongoing basis based on Section 4(3)(d).

0.1 FTE Commerce Specialist 3 (209 hours) to gather DEF feedback on both outreach efforts and digital equity programs on an ongoing basis from FY27-FY31 based on Section 5(2)(h-i).

1.0 FTE Commerce Specialist 3 (2,088 hours) to ensure compliance and compensation to pay 40 DEF members on a monthly basis, tracking and collecting work projects that the DEF is working on per year ongoing from FY27-FY31 based on Section 5(2)(d-f).

0.1 FTE Commerce Specialist 3 (290 hours) to integrate DEF input and questions from member consultation work with other local, state and federal agencies regarding the DE plan and its implementation on an ongoing basis from FY27-FY31 based on Section 5(2)(g).

Total Commerce Specialist 3 = 3.9 FTEs (8,143 hours) ongoing annually from FY27-FY31

0.1 FTE EMS 4 WSBO Director (209 hours) for formal tribal consultation and travel time for engagement with tribes on WSBO's purpose related to broadband adoption and access based on Section 3(6) ongoing annually from FY27-FY31.

0.5 FTE WMS 3 (1,044 hours) to coordinate with all state agency representatives on administration associated with the implementation and progress of the digital equity plan in Section 4(1) ongoing from FY27-FY31.

0.1 FTE WMS 3 (209 hours) to coordinate the evaluation of the progress of the state digital equity plan, assessment of statewide initiatives, policies, programs, funding needs, public and private investments, including a recommendation of a program model for future investments in the legislative report beginning in FY27 and every two years on an ongoing basis based on Section 4(3)(d).

0.1 FTE WMS 3 (209 hours) for communicating expectations based on state law and ensuring the DEF's outreach and coordination with tribes aligns with statutory authority and follow up with internal Commerce divisions and the AAG for issues that arise per year ongoing from FY27-FY31 based on Section 5(2)(d-f).

0.1 FTE WMS 3 (209 hours) to address DEF members bring questions or require support in their contacts with any local, state and federal agency on an ongoing basis from FY27-FY31 based on Section 5(2)(g).

0.1 FTE WMS 3 (209 hours) for ethics/legal review to determine if requests from the DEF could be viewed as lobbying or to ascertain if the issues are in scope with the DEF's statute per year ongoing from FY27-FY31 based on Section 5(7)(b).

1.0 FTE Commerce Specialist 5 (2,088 hours) to supervise staff and provide oversight on all aspects of the coordination, data collection and progress of the digital equity plan Section 4(1) ongoing from FY27-FY31.

0.20 FTE Commerce Specialist 5 (418 hours) for staff supervision, review of prospective funding proposals and oversight of all grant funding work to ensure grant compliance with agency and state policies per year ongoing from FY27-FY31 based on Section 4(1)(a)(c).

0.1 FTE Commerce Specialist 5 (209 hours) COM 5 to review and edit the legislative report beginning in FY27 and every two years on an ongoing basis based on Section 4(3)(d).

0.3 FTE Commerce Specialist 5 (627 hours) for reviewing and ensuring oversight and compliance with SAAM for DEF

stipend payments per year ongoing from FY27-FY31 based on Section 5(2)(d-f).

0.1 FTE Commerce Specialist 5 (209 hours) to provide supervisory support not only for the COM 3 position but all associated positions for the implementation of the digital equity opportunity program on an ongoing basis from FY27-FY31 based on Section 6(1)(a).

0.5 FTE Commerce Specialist 2 (1,044 hours) to provide organizational support and capacity building for the digital equity opportunity program by coordinating meetings in partnership with regional groups and coalitions to support their digital equity advancement initiatives on an ongoing basis from FY27-FY31 based on Section 6(1)(a).

0.5 FTE Commerce Specialist 2 (1,044 hours) to collect local and regional digital equity services information to compile and update directories through statewide outreach and engagement on an ongoing basis from FY27-FY31 based on Section 6(1)(a)(ii).

Salaries and Benefits:

FY27-FY31: $1,346,162 each fiscal year

Goods and Services:

The Department assumes AAG consultation will be required to implement this act.

Section 5(2)(g) would require AAG consultation at 2 hours per month x $210 x 12 months = $5,040.
Section 5(3)(c) would require AAG consultation at 6 hours per year at $210 per hour = $1,260.
Section 5(7)(b) would require AAG consultation at 12 hours per year at $210 per hour = $2,520.
Total legal consultation would be $8,820 annually, FY27-FY31
The Department assumes translation support will be required to implement this act.

The public list of low cost broadband plans = $1,725 per document x 8 language translations each year = $13,800
3 digital equity plan one-pagers x 8 language translations each year = 24 documents x $1,725 = $41,400
12 marketing documents/social media campaigns each year = $50,000
ASL interpreter $65 per hour for 12 public meetings each year for 2 hours = $1,560
3 digital equity plan one-pagers x 8 language translations each year = 24 documents x $1,725 = $41,400
Total translation/interpretation services: $148,160 annually FY27-FY31
FY27-FY31: $387,016 each fiscal year

Travel: The Department assumes travel would be required to support implementation of this act.

Section 3(6): Commerce Specialist 3 and the WSBO EMS 4 director travel to engage in tribal consultation assumes that the standard travel assumptions apply for 12 tribal consultations each year from FY27-FY31:
Lodging: Standard rate is $110 per night x 12 nights x 2 staff = $2,640. Meals and incidentals: Standard rate is $51 per day x 12 days x 2 staff = $1,224. Motor pool use: $39 per day x 12 x 2 staff = $936. Total travel costs for Section 3 = $4,800 annual ongoing FY 27-FY31.
Sections 4-5: Commerce Specialist 3 for travel for outreach and engagement on the digital equity plan and digital equity grant programs for 12 days each year from FY27-FY31:
Lodging: Standard rate is $110 per night x 12 nights = $1,320. Meals and incidentals: Standard rate is $51 per day x 12 days = $612. Motor pool use assuming driving up to 300 miles roundtrip: 72.5 cents per mile * 300 miles = $39 per day x

12 = $468. Total travel cost for Sections 4-5 = $2,400 annual ongoing FY 27-FY31.
Section 5: DEF travel for members to travel in-state to one event per year for 40 members
Lodging: Standard rate is $110 per night. Meals and incidentals: Standard rate is $51 per day. Personally owned vehicle use assuming driving up to 300 miles roundtrip: 72.5 center per mile * 300 miles = $196.50
Total travel costs for Section 5: $357.50 per DEF member annually x 40 members = $14,300 total annual cost FY 27-FY31.
FY27- FY31: $21,500 each fiscal year

Equipment:

FY27: $25,000

Intra-agency Services Reimbursement:

FY27-FY31: $426,733 each fiscal year

Total Costs:

FY27: $2,206,411

FY28-FY31: $2,181,411 each fiscal year

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
001-1	General Fund	State	0	2,206,411	2,206,411	4,362,822	4,362,822
		Total $	0	2,206,411	2,206,411	4,362,822	4,362,822

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years		9.3	4.7	9.3	9.3
A-Salaries and Wages		909,569	909,569	1,819,138	1,819,138
B-Employee Benefits		436,593	436,593	873,186	873,186
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services		387,016	387,016	774,032	774,032
G-Travel		21,500	21,500	43,000	43,000
J-Capital Outlays		25,000	25,000		
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements		426,733	426,733	853,466	853,466
9-					
Total $	0	2,206,411	2,206,411	4,362,822	4,362,822

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
Commerce Specialist 2	75,112		1.0	0.5	1.0	1.0
Commerce Specialist 3	87,054		3.9	2.0	3.9	3.9
Commerce Specialist 5	100,981		1.7	0.9	1.7	1.7
EMS Band 4	178,575		0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Management Analyst 4	91,458		1.7	0.9	1.7	1.7
WMS Band 3	146,786		0.9	0.5	0.9	0.9
Total FTEs			9.3	4.7	9.3	9.3

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

Program	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
Local Government Division (600)		2,206,411	2,206,411	4,362,822	4,362,822
Total $		2,206,411	2,206,411	4,362,822	4,362,822

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2365 HB	Title: Digital opportunities	Agency: 215-Utilities and Transportation Commission

Part I: Estimates

☐ **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Account					
Public Service Revolving Account-State 111-1	38,417	38,417	76,834	76,834	76,834
Total $	38,417	38,417	76,834	76,834	76,834

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

☐ If fiscal impact is greater than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.

☒ If fiscal impact is less than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Emily Poole	Phone: 360-786-7106	Date: 01/13/2026
Agency Preparation:	Michelle Parish	Phone: 360-664-1158	Date: 01/15/2026
Agency Approval:	Michelle Parish	Phone: 360-664-1158	Date: 01/15/2026
OFM Review:	Renee Martine	Phone: (360) 915-4588	Date: 01/16/2026

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

Section 2 adds broadband adoption and digital equity to be encouraged, fostered, and developed by the Washington State Broadband Office (WSBO).

Section 3 requires WSBO to coordinate with relevant state agencies to develop strategies and plans to promote broadband access and adoption, increases minimum speed to 100/20 Mbps and requires funds be deposited into the account created in RCW 80.36.710. Internet service providers must report three lowest cost tiers of retail internet service plans if not already publicly available. WSBO shall consider (rather than must) collaborating with various federally recognized tribes and relevant state agencies.

Section 4 requires the development, coordination, implementation of and monitoring of a state digital equity plan and provide an assessment of digital equity initiatives, policies, programs, funding needs, investments and a recommended model for future program, infrastructure, and outreach investments.

Section 5 adds the advancement of broadband adoption and digital equity as a purpose for the Digital Equity Forum and will recommend opportunities for sustainable digital equity funding including reforms to the current universal service mechanisms and will consult with WSBO and other agencies on the state digital equity plan now and into the future. WSBO, with consultation of the digital equity forum is responsible for naming members to the digital equity forum across a range of entities.

Section 6 amends the digital opportunity program administered by WSBO.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

UTC assumes no cash receipts will go to UTC as a result of this legislation.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Section 3, 4 and 5 will require the UTC to collaborate with WSBO and the Digital Equity Forum in developing, monitoring, and analyzing the state digital equity plan and its inputs. To participate in the collaborative effort, UTC will need necessary resources to conduct research and analysis concerning broadband locations and adoption, digital equity planning, and best practices, and will work with interested parties to make sound recommendations that will improve broadband deployment in underserved and unserved areas, promote adoptions of new technology and digital equity actions. The extent of assistance, analysis, and additional research into affordability, availability, education, and infrastructure is undefined and the associated expenses may be greater or lesser than the estimated amount.

$38,417 for FY 2026 (.25 FTE) for 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter.
(Regulatory Analyst 3, 0.19 FTE and Policy Advisor, Energy, 0.06 FTE)

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
111-1	Public Service Revolving Account	State	38,417	38,417	76,834	76,834	76,834
		Total $	38,417	38,417	76,834	76,834	76,834

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
A-Salaries and Wages	26,134	26,134	52,268	52,268	52,268
B-Employee Benefits	9,147	9,147	18,294	18,294	18,294
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services	3,136	3,136	6,272	6,272	6,272
G-Travel					
J-Capital Outlays					
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
9-					
Total $	38,417	38,417	76,834	76,834	76,834

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
Policy Advisor, Energy	107,700	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Regulatory Analyst 3	103,536	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Total FTEs		0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2365 HB	Title: Digital opportunities	Agency: 300-Department of Social and Health Services

Part I: Estimates

[X] **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:
NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

[ ] If fiscal impact is greater than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.

[ ] If fiscal impact is less than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

[ ] Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

[ ] Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Emily Poole	Phone: 360-786-7106	Date: 01/13/2026
Agency Preparation:	Douglas Hoffer	Phone: 360-902-8187	Date: 01/16/2026
Agency Approval:	Dan Winkley	Phone: 360-902-8236	Date: 01/16/2026
OFM Review:	Jason Brown	Phone: (360) 742-7277	Date: 01/21/2026

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

HB 2365 strengthens broadband access, speed, adoption, and digital equity across Washington State. It redefines key terms like "broadband" to require minimum speeds of 100 megabits per second download and 20 megabits per second upload, and expands the definition of "broadband adoption" to include the ability to use the internet fully and safely, along with necessary devices and technical support.

Section 1 introduces the concept of "community anchor institutions," which are entities like schools and libraries that help underserved populations use broadband.

Section 2 - The Governor's statewide broadband office's purpose is broadened to include fostering broadband adoption and digital equity, and its duties are expanded to coordinate with more entities, including community anchor institutions, and to update the state's broadband goals and definitions more frequently.

Section 4 mandates more frequent reporting on the state's digital equity plan, requiring updates every two years starting in 2027, and expands the scope of the digital equity forum to include more partners and to provide feedback on grant programs.

Section 6 - The digital opportunity program, administered by the department of commerce, is updated to focus on outreach, digital skills, and providing access to technology and connectivity, with a particular emphasis on low-income and underserved populations, and the digital equity forum will now provide input on grant applications for this program.

The requirements of this bill will not result in a fiscal impact to the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS). The Department is called out in this bill as a representative to take part and be consulted on the digital equity plan and as a part of the digital equity forum. This work can continue to be absorbed within existing resources.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

Bill Number: 2365 HB	Title: Digital opportunities	Agency: 350-Superintendent of Public Instruction

Part I: Estimates

☐ **No Fiscal Impact**

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Account					
General Fund-State 001-1	0	7,000	7,000	0	0
Total $	0	7,000	7,000	0	0

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

☐ If fiscal impact is greater than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.

☒ If fiscal impact is less than $50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).

☐ Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.

☐ Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact:	Emily Poole	Phone: 360-786-7106	Date: 01/13/2026
Agency Preparation:	Adam Cole	Phone: 360-725-6179	Date: 01/15/2026
Agency Approval:	Mike Woods	Phone: 360 725-6283	Date: 01/15/2026
OFM Review:	Danya Clevenger	Phone: (360) 688-6413	Date: 01/19/2026

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

The following sections of the bill have potential fiscal impact for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI).

Section 3(6) states in carrying out its purpose, the Governor's Statewide Broadband Office shall consider collaborating with federally recognized tribes and all relevant state agencies, including, but not limited to, the Utilities and Transportation Commission, Washington Technology Solutions, the Department of Commerce, the Community Economic Revitalization Board, the Department of Transportation, the Public Works Board, the State Librarian, the Department of Social and Health Services, and OSPI.

The purpose of the Governor's Statewide Broadband Office, as stated in section 2(2), is to encourage, foster, develop, and improve affordable and quality broadband, broadband adoption, and digital equity within the state.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

There is no impact to cash receipts.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

OSPI is included in the list of entities in section 3(6) which the Governor's Statewide Broadband Office shall consider collaborating with. OSPI would require the following positions to execute the work.

- Director at 0.01 FTE at a cost of $3,000 in FY27.
- Program Supervisor at 0.02 FTE at a cost of $4,000 in FY27.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
001-1	General Fund	State	0	7,000	7,000	0	0
		Total $	0	7,000	7,000	0	0

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
FTE Staff Years		0.0	0.0		
A-Salaries and Wages		3,483	3,483		
B-Employee Benefits		2,758	2,758		
C-Professional Service Contracts					
E-Goods and Other Services		207	207		
G-Travel		207	207		
J-Capital Outlays		345	345		
M-Inter Agency/Fund Transfers					
N-Grants, Benefits & Client Services					
P-Debt Service					
S-Interagency Reimbursements					
T-Intra-Agency Reimbursements					
9-					
Total $	0	7,000	7,000	0	0

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2026	FY 2027	2025-27	2027-29	2029-31
Director			0.0	0.0		
Program Supervisor			0.0	0.0		
Total FTEs			0.0	0.0		0.0

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

There is no impact to capital budget.

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.