

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS.
COUNTY OF DUNN)

I, Julie A. Wathke, County Clerk in and for the County of Dunn, State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the attached copy of Resolution No. 2019-2 is a true and correct copy of the original resolution duly adopted by the Dunn County Board of Supervisors at a meeting held on January 15, 2020.

Given under my hand and seal in the City of Menomonie this 16th day of January, 2020.



Julie A. Wathke
Julie A. Wathke
Dunn County Clerk

U.A.

DUNN COUNTY, WISCONSIN
RESOLUTION NO. 2

**Supporting Assembly Bill 344 Regarding Telephone Company Tax Exemption
for Property Used to Provide Broadband Service**


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dunn County Board of Supervisors support Assembly Bill 344 (AB344) and urges the State legislature to adopt it.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Dunn County Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the State Senators and Representatives serving Dunn County Constituents, and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

DATED this 15th day of January, 2020, at Menomonie, Wisconsin.

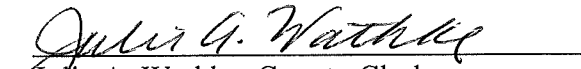
OFFERED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

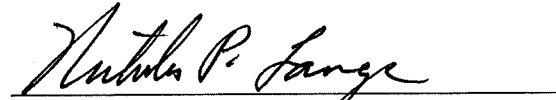
Adopted on: January 15, 2020


David Bartlett, Chair

ATTEST:

Approved as to Form and Execution:


Julie A. Wathke, County Clerk


Nicholas P. Lange, Corporation Counsel

Budget Impact: Approval of this resolution will have no impact on the 2020 budget.

Background Information: AB 344 exempts property used to provide broadband service to a rural or underserved area from the telephone company tax that is paid by telephone companies in lieu of the general property tax. To qualify for the exemption, property installed prior to January 1, 2020 must be used to provide Internet access service to a rural area at a download speed of at least 25 megabits per second and an upload speed of at least 3 megabits per second. Property installed after December 31, 2019, must be used to provide Internet access service to a rural or underserved area at those same speeds or, if higher, speeds designated by the Federal Communications Commission. Under the bill, an “underserved area” is any area in the State served by fewer than two wired service providers, and a “rural area” is any area in the State that is located outside a federal metropolitan statistical area or is located in a city, village, or town with a population of not more than 14,000. For property installed prior to January 1, 2020, the determination of whether an area is a rural area is based on the 2010 federal decennial census.

The Directional Plan adopted by the Dunn County Board of Supervisors includes expansion of rural broadband as a priority initiative. A “gap analysis” of broadband service conducted by Dunn County and the Dunn County Economic Development Corporation in 2018 identified large areas of the County that are underserved by broadband. Adoption of AB 344 would further the realization of this goal by incentivizing telephone companies to expand broadband service to rural portions of the County.