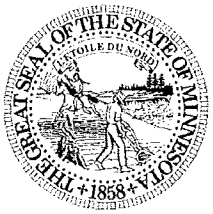
STATE OF MINNESOTA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT



MARK DAYTON
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER 11 –27

Providing for the Establishment of the Governor's Task Force on Broadband

I, Mark Dayton, Governor of the State of Minnesota, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and applicable statutes, do hereby issue this Executive Order:

Whereas, the State has a strong public interest in broadband planning and development to meet public and private needs, job creation, and opportunities in a global economy; and

Whereas, on April 8, 2008, the State established the Ultra High-Speed Broadband Goal Task Force, which convened and reported on state broadband goals and recommendations; and

Whereas, the State has adopted broadband goals under Minnesota Statutes § 237.012. The goal for universal access and high-speed provides that, "it is a state goal that as soon as possible, but no later than 2015, all state residents and businesses have access to high-speed broadband that provides minimum download speeds of ten to 20 megabits per second and minimum upload speeds of five to ten megabits per second"; and

Whereas, the goal for state broadband leadership position provides that, "it is a goal of the state that by 2015, and thereafter, the state be in:

1. The top five states of the United States for broadband speed universally accessible to residents and businesses;

2. The top five states for broadband access; and

3. The top 15 when compared to countries globally for broadband penetration"; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of Commerce must report by February 10 of each year through 2015, on the achievement of the Minnesota broadband goals to the chairs and ranking minority members of the Minnesota legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over telecommunication issues;

Now, Therefore, in order to implement state broadband initiatives, I hereby order that:

1. The Governor's Task Force on Broadband is created under Minnesota Statutes § 15.0593 to develop, implement and promote state broadband policy, planning and initiatives to achieve state broadband needs and goals.

2. The task force consists of 15 members appointed by the Governor who shall have experience or interest in broadband matters. The members must represent a balance of broadband interests, including consumers, education institutions, health care institutions, telephone companies, cable companies, wireless companies, metropolitan area counties, and rural area counties. The Governor will designate a member to serve as chair of the task force. The task force shall meet at least monthly. The Department of Commerce shall provide logistical and administrative support to the task force. The task force shall engage key broadband stakeholders as advisors in its deliberations.

3. By December 30, 2011, the task force shall inventory, assess and report on:

    a. the needs, barriers, issues, and goals for broadband access;
    b. the needs and use of broadband in Minnesota's education systems, health care system, energy sector, industries and businesses, libraries, governmental operations, public safety and other key economic sectors;
    c. internet literacy;
    d. broadband accessibility for unserved and underserved populations;
    e. progress of the federal ARRA broadband projects and mapping in Minnesota; and
    f. opportunities to coordinate with federal, state, and local agencies.

4. By January 31, 2012, the task force shall develop a Minnesota Broadband Plan outline, including strategies, tasks, action items, and recommendations.

5. The task force may identify or prepare technical or "white" papers on top priority issues concerning broadband in Minnesota.

6. The task force shall assist in preparing a report to the legislature under Minnesota Statutes § 237.012, subdivision 3, on the achievement of the Minnesota broadband goals, due annually by February 10.

Under Minnesota Statutes 2010, section 4.035, subdivision 2, this Executive Order is effective 15 days after publication in the State Register and filing with the Secretary of State and shall remain in effect until rescinded by proper authority or it expires in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 4.035, subdivision 3.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand on August 25, 2011.

Mark Dayton
Governor

Filed According to Law:

Mark Ritchie
Secretary of State