AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, relative to authorization to provide broadband services.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-59-316(a)(1), is amended by adding the following to the end of the subdivision:

This subdivision (a)(1) allows a rural electric cooperative to contract with a county to provide broadband service in any county having a population of not less than seven thousand eight hundred sixty-six (7,866) nor more than seven thousand nine hundred (7,900) according to the 2010 federal census or any subsequent federal census.

SECTION 2. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.