

State of Wisconsin



2017 Assembly Bill 917

Date of enactment: **April 16, 2018**
Date of publication*: **April 17, 2018**

2017 WISCONSIN ACT 342

AN ACT *to create* 196.5045 of the statutes; **relating to:** Telecommuter Forward! community certification.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 3. 196.5045 of the statutes is created to read:
196.5045 Telecommuter Forward! certification.

(1) In this section, "political subdivision" means a city, village, town, or county.

(2) A political subdivision may apply to the commission for certification as a Telecommuter Forward! community. The commission shall prescribe the form and manner for making an application and a process for public notice and comment on an application. The commission shall approve an application and certify a political subdivision as a Telecommuter Forward! community if the commission determines that the political subdivision has adopted a resolution that complies with sub. (3). Before approving an application, the commission shall consider any public comments made regarding the application.

(3) A political subdivision may not be certified as a Telecommuter Forward! community under sub. (2) unless the political subdivision adopts a resolution that does all of the following:

(a) States the political subdivision's support and commitment to promote the availability of telecommuting options.

(b) Provides for a single point of contact for coordinating telecommuting opportunities that has all of the following responsibilities:

1. Coordination and partnership with broadband providers, realtors, economic development professionals, employers, employees, and other telecommuting stakeholders.

2. Collaboration with broadband providers and employers to identify, develop, and market telecommuter-capable broadband packages.

3. Communication and partnership with broadband providers and economic development professionals to develop common goals.

4. Promotion of telecommuter-friendly workspaces, such as business incubators with telecommuting spaces, if such a workspace has been established in the political subdivision at the time the political subdivision adopts the resolution.

5. Familiarity with broadband mapping tools and other state-level resources.

6. Maintaining regular communication with the state broadband office.

7. Making regular reports to the governing body of the political subdivision.

* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication."