



State of Wisconsin  
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4638/1  
MDK:jld

## 2017 SENATE BILL 845

February 21, 2018 - Introduced by Senators VINEHOUT, RINGHAND and CARPENTER, cosponsored by Representatives VRUWINK, ANDERSON, SPREITZER, NOVAK, SUBECK, BROSTOFF, POPE, BERCEAU and CONSIDINE. Referred to Committee on Elections and Utilities.

1     **AN ACT to repeal** 66.0422 (2) (c), 66.0422 (4) and 66.0422 (5); and **to amend**  
2             196.504 (1) (ac) 3. of the statutes; **relating to:** broadband expansion grant to  
3             cities, villages, towns, and counties and ordinances and resolutions regarding  
4             telecommunications, cable, video, or broadband service facilities.

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### ***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

This bill eliminates a requirement for a city, village, or town (local government) to prepare a report before holding a public hearing on a proposed ordinance or resolution authorizing the local government to construct or operate facilities for providing telecommunications service, cable television or similar video service, or broadband service to the public. With exceptions, current law prohibits a local government from enacting an ordinance or adopting a resolution authorizing the local government to construct or operate such a facility unless the local government gives notice and holds a public hearing on the proposed ordinance or resolution. In addition, at least 30 days prior to the hearing, current law requires the local government to prepare and make available to the public a report that estimates the total costs and revenues for the facility and includes a cost-benefit analysis of the facility for a period of at least three years. Under this bill, a local government is not required to prepare that report.

The bill also allows a local government or county to apply for a broadband expansion grant without submitting the application in partnership with another applicant. Under current law, the Public Service Commission makes the grants to eligible applicants for constructing broadband facilities in underserved areas.

