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By: **Delegates Hurson and Franchot**  
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000  
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Study Commission on Internet Transport Service**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Study Commission on Internet Transport  
4 Service; providing the membership, duties, responsibilities, and staffing of the  
5 Study Commission; requiring the Study Commission to submit a certain report  
6 to certain persons by a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act;  
7 and generally relating to Internet transport services.

8 BY adding to  
9 Article - Commercial Law  
10 Section 11-1501 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 15. Internet Transport  
11 Service"  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1990 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
15 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article - Commercial Law**

17 **SUBTITLE 15. INTERNET TRANSPORT SERVICE.**

18 11-1501.

19 (A) THERE IS A STUDY COMMISSION ON INTERNET TRANSPORT SERVICE.

20 (B) THE STUDY COMMISSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING 19 MEMBERS:

21 (1) FOUR MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE  
22 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE, OF WHOM AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE OF THE MINORITY  
23 PARTY;

24 (2) FOUR MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY THE  
25 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE, OF WHOM AT LEAST ONE SHALL BE OF THE MINORITY  
26 PARTY;

1           (3)     THE SECRETARY OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, OR  
2 THE SECRETARY'S DESIGNEE;

3           (4)     THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, OR THE  
4 CHAIRMAN'S DESIGNEE; AND

5           (5)     NINE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, AS FOLLOWS:

6                   (I)     TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF COMPANIES THAT PROVIDE  
7 INTERNET ACCESS IN THE STATE USING CABLE TELEVISION LINES;

8                   (II)    TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF COMPANIES THAT PROVIDE  
9 INTERNET SERVICE IN THE STATE USING TELEPHONE LINES;

10                  (III)   ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN THE STATE;

11                  (IV)   ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF A COMPANY BASED IN THE STATE  
12 THAT PRIMARILY CONDUCTS BUSINESS USING THE INTERNET; AND

13                  (V)     THREE CONSUMER MEMBERS.

14    (C)     THE GOVERNOR SHALL SELECT A CHAIRMAN OF THE STUDY COMMISSION.

15    (D)     A MEMBER OF THE STUDY COMMISSION:

16           (1)     MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION; BUT

17           (2)     IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE  
18 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

19    (E)     THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY COMMISSION IS TO STUDY AND MAKE  
20 RECOMMENDATIONS ON:

21           (1)     THE MEANS AVAILABLE TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO BROADBAND  
22 INTERNET TRANSPORT SERVICES IN THE STATE;

23           (2)     AVAILABLE AND NEEDED INFRASTRUCTURE FOR PROVIDING  
24 ACCESS TO BROADBAND INTERNET TRANSPORT SERVICES IN THE STATE;

25           (3)     TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH BROADBAND INTERNET  
26 TRANSPORT SERVICES AND INTERNET CONTENT ARE OR SHOULD BE AVAILABLE IN  
27 THE STATE;

28           (4)     ISSUES RELATING TO PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO BROADBAND  
29 INTERNET SERVICES IN THE STATE; AND

30           (5)     CURRENT AND POSSIBLE MEANS OF MONITORING OR REGULATING  
31 THE DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF BROADBAND INTERNET SERVICES IN THE  
32 STATE.

1 (F) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2000, THE STUDY COMMISSION SHALL  
2 SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE  
3 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY INCLUDING THE RESULTS OF  
4 THE STUDY, THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE STUDY COMMISSION, AND ANY  
5 PROPOSED LEGISLATION, REGULATION, OR OTHER POLICY THAT THE STUDY  
6 COMMISSION CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE.

7 (G) THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SHALL  
8 PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT TO THE STUDY COMMISSION.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
10 June 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the  
11 end of June 30, 2001, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this  
12 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.