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## **Rep. Summerfield Praises Passage of Broadband Bill**

**Madison**... Following the passage of Assembly Bill 239 today in the Wisconsin State Assembly, Rep. Rob Summerfield (R-Bloomer) released the following statement:

"Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly took a bold step to connect our state with high-speed internet access and reliable broadband services. With approximately 400,000 Wisconsinites lacking access to basic internet, and some 20% of rural residents falling into this category, our state needed an ambitious plan to ensure we can remain competitive in the coming decades. I am proud to have authored this proposal and lead this much-needed charge."

Assembly Bill 239 allocates \$500 million from the American Rescue Plan Act funds to the Broadband Expansion Grant program. Wisconsin is set to receive more than \$3.2 billion from the federal government. Earlier this year, Governor Tony Evers declared 2021 the "Year of Broadband".

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The 67<sup>th</sup> Assembly District includes portions of Dunn and Chippewa counties.