

**House Study Bill 709 - Introduced**

SENATE/HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED GOVERNOR BILL)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the Iowa communications network, and  
2 including effective date provisions.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 8D.11, subsection 2, Code 2026, is  
2 amended by striking the subsection.

3 Sec. 2. Section 8D.11, subsection 5, Code 2026, is amended  
4 to read as follows:

5 5. Pursuant to an agreement between the commission and an  
6 authorized user, the commission may provide billing services on  
7 behalf of the authorized user and charge another entity that  
8 receives services from the authorized user pursuant to the  
9 network if ~~all of the following conditions are satisfied:~~

10 ~~a. The the services provided by the authorized user to the~~  
11 ~~other entity must be are consistent with the mission of the~~  
12 ~~authorized user.~~

13 ~~b. The services provided by the authorized user to the other~~  
14 ~~entity must be consistent with the requirements and limitations~~  
15 ~~in subsection 2.~~

16 Sec. 3. SALE OF IOWA COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK. The department  
17 of management shall implement a solicitation process, which  
18 may include direct solicitation of bids, to sell the Iowa  
19 communications network. The solicitation must provide for  
20 the sale to be concluded as soon as feasible. The department  
21 may utilize a sole source approach to contract for necessary  
22 vendor services to facilitate the transaction, including  
23 but not limited to brokerage services, financial accounting  
24 services, and outside counsel. The department shall condition  
25 the sale of the Iowa communications network on terms that will  
26 allow existing contracted services by authorized users of the  
27 network to continue on commercially reasonable terms for a  
28 period of at least ten years. The department shall submit  
29 periodic status reports to the legislative services agency at  
30 three-month intervals, beginning October 1, 2026, regarding  
31 progress made toward selling the network. At least ten days  
32 before completing the sale, the director of the department  
33 shall submit a report to the legislative services agency  
34 outlining the proposed sale. Proceeds from the sale of the  
35 Iowa communications network shall be deposited in the general

1 fund of the state.

2 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. The following, being deemed of  
3 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment:

4 The section of this Act authorizing the sale of the Iowa  
5 communications network.

6 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. The following take effect July 1,  
7 2027:

8 1. The section of this Act amending section 8D.11,  
9 subsection 2.

10 2. The section of this Act amending section 8D.11,  
11 subsection 5.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill strikes provisions prohibiting the Iowa  
16 telecommunications and technology commission from providing  
17 or reselling communications services to entities other than  
18 public and private agencies, prohibiting public and private  
19 agencies from providing communication services of the Iowa  
20 communications network to another entity unless authorized, and  
21 authorizing and regulating leases and agreements regarding the  
22 Iowa communications network with private and public agencies.  
23 The elimination of these provisions takes effect July 1, 2027.

24 The bill directs the department of management (DOM) to sell  
25 the Iowa communications network as soon as feasible. DOM may  
26 use a sole source approach to contract for vendor services  
27 to facilitate the transaction and may directly solicit bids  
28 for the network. The sale must allow authorized users of  
29 the network to continue to receive contracted services on  
30 commercially reasonable terms for at least 10 years. The  
31 bill requires DOM to submit status reports to the legislative  
32 services agency every three months, beginning October 1, 2026,  
33 and an outline of the proposed sale 10 days prior to completing  
34 the transaction. The proceeds of the sale are deposited in the  
35 general fund. This provision takes effect upon enactment.