

RESOLUTION NO. 2326

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SWLA-RPC) FOR LOUISIANA PLANNING DISTRICT 5 APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR THE LOUISIANA JUSTICE FUND REENTRY & ECONOMIC MOBILITY (ReEM) GRANT THROUGH THE FOUNDATION FOR LOUISIANA.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Southwest Louisiana Regional Planning Commission (SWLA-RPC) has identified broadband infrastructure as a district priority; **AND**

WHEREAS, the SWLA-RPC Board approved an application for funding a Broadband Technical Assistance Program through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); **AND**

WHEREAS, the USDA awarded SWLA-RPC a cooperative endeavor agreement to provide research and planning opportunities in the broadband industry; **AND**

WHEREAS, SWLA-RPC partnered on the Broadband Technical Assistance program with the Southwest Louisiana (SOWELA) Community and Technical College, which offers technical education, workforce training, and credentialing programs to meet the needs of Southwest Louisiana’s evolving economy; **AND**

WHEREAS, SOWELA currently offers certification courses in broadband-related trades; **AND**

WHEREAS, there is a consistent need for a qualified broadband workforce; **AND**

WHEREAS, one component of the Broadband Technical Assistance program is the identification and acquisition of additional funding for workforce development opportunities through trade trainings; **AND**

WHEREAS, SWLA-RPC research discovered a grant opportunity through the Louisiana Justice Fund, which is a pooled fund housed at the Foundation for Louisiana, to provide vulnerable populations with training opportunities; **AND**

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Justice Fund supports initiatives and systemic reforms aimed at reducing incarceration rates, improving reentry outcomes, and dismantling barriers to economic mobility through programs such as Reentry & Economic Mobility (ReEM); **AND**

WHEREAS, SOWELA currently has a partnership with the Allen Parish Correctional Facility to provide on-site training that also supports initiatives and systemic reforms to reduce recidivism; **AND**


WHEREAS, SWLA-RPC has also identified the Correctional Facility as a partner in the broadband trades training;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (SWLA-RPC) FOR LOUISIANA PLANNING DISTRICT 5 APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR THE LOUISIANA JUSTICE FUND REENTRY & ECONOMIC MOBILITY (ReEM) GRANT THROUGH THE FOUNDATION FOR LOUISIANA.

THIS RESOLUTION BEING APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON THE 17TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2025. A COPY OF THE PREPARED APPLICATION IS ATTACHED AND MADE A PART OF THIS RESOLUTION.



Jacob Dillehay, Chair

ATTEST: 

Michael Hollier, AICP, Director