

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4642

To allow Rural Utilities Service telecommunications grants to be made for the collection of broadband infrastructure data by local governments, economic development or other community organizations, electric or telephone cooperatives, and small internet providers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 11, 2019

Mr. DELGADO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To allow Rural Utilities Service telecommunications grants to be made for the collection of broadband infrastructure data by local governments, economic development or other community organizations, electric or telephone cooperatives, and small internet providers.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Community Broadband
5 Mapping Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RURAL BROADBAND ACCESS GRANTS.**

2 Section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936
3 (7 U.S.C. 950bb) is amended by adding at the end the
4 following:

5 “(1) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS TO CERTAIN EN-
6 TITIES TO COLLECT BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE
7 DATA.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
8 tion, the Secretary may make a grant under this section
9 to a unit of local government, an economic development
10 or other community organization, an electric cooperative
11 (as defined in section 3 of the Federal Power Act) that
12 sells electric energy to persons in rural areas, a telephone
13 cooperative, or an internet service provider that has not
14 more than 100,000 subscribers, for the purpose of ena-
15 bling the collection of data relating to where broadband
16 infrastructure is located and which homes are provided
17 with non-satellite broadband service, without regard to
18 any household service percentage requirement, and in de-
19 termining the eligibility of any such entity for such a
20 grant, the term ‘rural area’ means an area that is not in
21 an urbanized area or urban cluster with a population of
22 25,000 or more as determined by the Bureau of the Cen-
23 sus.”.

1 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF MIDDLE MILE INFRASTRUCTURE**
2 **INTO RURAL AREAS GRANTS.**

3 Section 602 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936
4 (7 U.S.C. 950bb–1) is amended by adding at the end the
5 following:

6 “(h) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS TO CERTAIN**
7 **ENTITIES TO COLLECT BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE**
8 **DATA.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
9 tion, the Secretary may make a grant under this section
10 to a unit of local government, an economic development
11 or other community organization, an electric cooperative
12 (as defined in section 3 of the Federal Power Act) that
13 sells electric energy to persons in rural areas, a telephone
14 cooperative, or an internet service provider that has not
15 more than 100,000 subscribers, for the purpose of ena-
16 bling the collection of data relating to where broadband
17 infrastructure is located and which homes are provided
18 with non-satellite broadband service, without regard to
19 any household service percentage requirement, and in de-
20 termining the eligibility of any such entity for such a
21 grant, the term ‘rural area’ means an area that is not in
22 an urbanized area or urban cluster with a population of
23 25,000 or more as determined by the Bureau of the Cen-
24 sus.”.

1 **SEC. 4. INNOVATIVE BROADBAND ADVANCEMENT GRANTS.**

2 Section 603 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936
3 (7 U.S.C. 950bb–2) is amended by adding at the end the
4 following:

5 “(f) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS TO CERTAIN EN-
6 TITIES TO COLLECT BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE
7 DATA.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
8 tion, the Secretary may make a grant under this section
9 to a unit of local government, an economic development
10 or other community organization, an electric cooperative
11 (as defined in section 3 of the Federal Power Act) that
12 sells electric energy to persons in rural areas, a telephone
13 cooperative, or an internet service provider that has not
14 more than 100,000 subscribers, for the purpose of ena-
15 bling the collection of data relating to where broadband
16 infrastructure is located and which homes are provided
17 with non-satellite broadband service, without regard to
18 any household service percentage requirement, and in de-
19 termining the eligibility of any such entity for such a
20 grant, the term ‘rural area’ means an area that is not in
21 an urbanized area or urban cluster with a population of
22 25,000 or more as determined by the Bureau of the Cen-
23 sus.”.

1 **SEC. 5. COMMUNITY CONNECT GRANTS.**

2 Section 604 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936
3 (7 U.S.C. 950bb–3) is amended by adding at the end the
4 following:

5 “(h) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS TO CERTAIN**
6 **ENTITIES TO COLLECT BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE**
7 **DATA.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
8 tion, the Secretary may make a grant under this section
9 to a unit of local government, an economic development
10 or other community organization, an electric cooperative
11 (as defined in section 3 of the Federal Power Act) that
12 sells electric energy to persons in rural areas, a telephone
13 cooperative, or an internet service provider that has not
14 more than 100,000 subscribers, for the purpose of ena-
15 bling the collection of data relating to where broadband
16 infrastructure is located and which homes are provided
17 with non-satellite broadband service, without regard to
18 any household service percentage requirement, and in de-
19 termining the eligibility of any such entity for such a
20 grant, the term ‘rural area’ means an area that is not in
21 an urbanized area or urban cluster with a population of
22 25,000 or more as determined by the Bureau of the Cen-
23 sus.”.

1 **SEC. 6. DISTANCE LEARNING AND TELEMEDICINE GRANTS.**

2 Section 2333 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation
3 and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 950aaa–2) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 “(j) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS TO CERTAIN EN-**
6 **TITIES TO COLLECT BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE**
7 **DATA.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this sec-
8 tion, the Secretary may make a grant under this section
9 to a unit of local government, an economic development
10 or other community organization, an electric cooperative
11 (as defined in section 3 of the Federal Power Act) that
12 sells electric energy to persons in rural areas, a telephone
13 cooperative, or an internet service provider that has not
14 more than 100,000 subscribers, for the purpose of ena-
15 bling the collection of data relating to where broadband
16 infrastructure is located and which homes are provided
17 with non-satellite broadband service, without regard to
18 any household service percentage requirement, and in de-
19 termining the eligibility of any such entity for such a
20 grant, the term ‘rural area’ means an area that is not in
21 an urbanized area or urban cluster with a population of
22 25,000 or more as determined by the Bureau of the Cen-
23 sus.”.

24 **SEC. 7. RECONNECT GRANTS.**

25 Section 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appro-
26 priations Act, 2018 (132 Stat. 399; Public Law 115–141)

1 is amended by inserting “: *Provided further*, That, not-
2 withstanding any other provision of this section, the Sec-
3 retary may make a grant under this section to a unit of
4 local government, an economic development or other com-
5 munity organization, an electric cooperative (as defined in
6 section 3 of the Federal Power Act) that sells electric en-
7 ergy to persons in rural areas, a telephone cooperative,
8 or an internet service provider that has not more than
9 100,000 subscribers, for the purpose of enabling the col-
10 lection of data relating to where broadband infrastructure
11 is located and which homes are provided with non-satellite
12 broadband service, without regard to any household serv-
13 ice percentage requirement, and in determining the eligi-
14 bility of any such entity for such a grant, the term ‘rural
15 area’ means an area that is not in an urbanized area or
16 urban cluster with a population of 25,000 or more as de-
17 termined by the Bureau of the Census” before the period.

18 **SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

19 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
20 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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