Union Calendar No. 274

110TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

H.R.3919

[Report No. 110-443]

To provide for a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband service, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 22, 2007

Mr. Markey (for himself, Mr. Dingell, Mrs. Wilson of New Mexico, Ms. Eshoo, Mr. Doyle, Mr. Gordon of Tennessee, Mrs. Capps, Mr. Space, Mr. Hill, Ms. Solis, Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. Gene Green of Texas, and Mr. Allen) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

NOVEMBER 13, 2007

Additional sponsors: Mr. Barton of Texas, Mr. Upton, and Mr. Stupak

November 13, 2007

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on October 22, 2007]

A BILL

To provide for a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband service, and for other purposes.

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

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

- 2 This Act may be cited as the "Broadband Census of
- 3 America Act of 2007".

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- 4 SEC. 2. CENSUS OF BROADBAND SERVICE DEPLOYMENT.
- 5 (a) Duty To Collect and Report.—
- 6 (1) Annual assessment and report.—The
 7 Commission shall, on an annual basis, conduct an as8 sessment and publish a report on the nature and de9 ployment of, and subscription to, broadband service
 10 capability throughout the States.
 - (2) Bandwidth service tiers by identision shall designate bandwidth service tiers by identifying tiers of increasing data transmission speeds of
 broadband service capability that will provide useful
 information about the nature and extent of deployment of broadband service capability. At a minimum,
 the tiers in the aggregate shall encompass all data
 transmission speeds deployed, and shall consist of
 multiple combinations of upstream and downstream
 data transmission speeds. Each tier shall be designated, to the extent possible, to correspond to the
 ability to support qualitatively different applications
 and services, which the Commission shall also identify.
- 25 (3) Information collection.—The Commis-26 sion shall collect, or provide for the collection of, in-

1	formation from all commercial and public providers			
2	of broadband service capability under its jurisdiction			
3	in each State. Such information shall include—			
4	(A) for each area encompassed by a United			
5	States postal zip code of the 5 digit level—			
6	(i) information concerning the types of			
7	technology used to provide broadband serv			
8	ice capability in such area;			
9	(ii) the tiers designated under para-			
10	graph (2) used to provide such capability in			
11	such area; and			
12	(iii) the actual number of residential			
13	subscribers and the actual number of busi-			
14	ness subscribers in such area; and			
15	(B) for each State, the actual number of res-			
16	idential subscribers and the actual number of			
17	business subscribers for each tier of service des-			
18	ignated under paragraph (2).			
19	(4) Information reported.—In the annual re-			
20	port required by paragraph (1), the Commission shall			
21	provide to the public—			
22	(A) for each area encompassed by a United			
23	States postal zip code of the 5 digit level—			
24	(i) a list of the types of technology used			
25	to provide such capability in such area; and			

1	(ii) the actual number of residential
2	subscribers and the actual number of busi-
3	ness subscribers to broadband service capa-
4	bility in such area, each in the aggregate;
5	and
6	(B) for each State, the actual number of res-
7	idential subscribers and the actual number of
8	business subscribers for each tier of service des-
9	ignated under paragraph (2), each in the aggre-
10	gate.
11	(b) Evolution of Assessment.—The Commission
12	shall periodically review both the bandwidth service tiers
13	and the types of technology utilized in its assessment under
14	subsection (a) to take into account changes in technology
15	and marketplace conditions.
16	(c) International Comparison.—
17	(1) INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON As part of

(1) International comparison.—As part of the assessment and report required by this section, the Commission shall include information comparing the extent of broadband service capability (including data transmission speeds and price for broadband service capability) in a total of 75 communities in at least 25 countries abroad for each of the tiers designated pursuant to subsection (a)(2).

- 1 (2) Contents.—The Commission shall choose 2 communities for the comparison under this subsection in a manner that will offer, to the extent possible, 3 communities of a population size, population density, topography, and demographic profile that are com-5 6 parable to the population size, population density, to-7 pography, and demographic profile of various com-8 munities within the United States. The Commission shall include in the comparison under this sub-9 10 section—
- 11 (A) a geographically diverse selection of 12 countries; and
- (B) communities including the capital cities
 of such countries.
 - (3) SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES.—The Commission shall identify relevant similarities and differences in each community, including their market structures, the number of competitors, the number of facilities-based providers, the types of technologies deployed by such providers, the applications and services those technologies enable, and the regulatory model under which broadband service capability is provided.
- 24 (d) Protection of Information.—Except for the in-25 formation provided to the public by the Commission in its

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- 1 annual report pursuant to subsection (a)(4), nothing in this
- 2 section shall reduce or remove any obligation the Commis-
- 3 sion has to protect proprietary information, nor shall this
- 4 section be construed to compel the Commission to make pub-
- 5 licly available any proprietary information. Any informa-
- 6 tion collected by the Commission pursuant to subsection
- 7 (a)(3) that reveals any competitively sensitive information
- 8 of an individual provider of broadband service capability
- 9 shall not be disclosed by the Commission under subsection
- 10 (a)(4) or otherwise.
- 11 (e) Regulations.—The Commission shall, within 180
- 12 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, promulgate
- 13 regulations to implement this section.
- 14 (f) Enforcement Authority.—The Commission
- 15 shall enforce this section as if such section was a part of
- 16 the Communications Act of 1934. For the purpose of this
- 17 section, any violations of this section, or any regulations
- 18 promulgated under this section, shall be considered to be
- 19 a violation of the Communications Act of 1934 or a regula-
- 20 tion promulgated under that Act, respectively.
- 21 SEC. 3. BROADBAND INVENTORY MAP.
- 22 (a) Establishment.—To provide a comprehensive
- 23 nationwide inventory of existing broadband service capa-
- 24 bility and availability, the NTIA shall develop and main-
- 25 tain a broadband inventory map of the United States that

1	identifies and depicts the geographic extent to which						
2	broadband service capability is deployed and available from						
3	a commercial provider or public provider throughout each						
4	State.						
5	(b) Information Shown.—The broadband inventory						
6	map developed and maintained pursuant to this section						
7	shall be capable of identifying and depicting, nationwide,						
8	for each State, and for each county or parish of each						
9	State—						
10	(1) each area encompassed by a United States						
11	postal zip code of 9 digit level, census tract level, or						
12	functional equivalent in which broadband service ca-						
13	pability is deployed at that time, including—						
14	(A) each commercial or public provider of						
15	broadband service capability within such area;						
16	and						
17	(B) subject to subsection $(f)(5)$ —						
18	(i) each type of technology used to pro-						
19	vide broadband service capability within						
20	such area; and						
21	(ii) which bandwidth service tiers des-						
22	ignated $pursuant$ to $section$ $2(a)(2)$ are						
23	available within such area for each provider						
24	of broadband service capability; and						

- 1 (2) each area encompassed by a United States 2 postal zip code of 9 digit level, census tract level, or 3 functional equivalent in which broadband service ca-4 pability is not deployed at that time. (c) Data Use Encouraged.—The NTIA shall— 5 6 (1) seek to overlay demographic data obtained 7 from other sources in the Department of Commerce 8 and elsewhere for use with such broadband inventory 9 map; and 10 (2) make available such map, and the informa-11 tion on which it is based, to such other sources in the 12 Department for demographic purposes, subject to sec-13 tion 7. 14 (d) Public Availability and Interactivity.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the NTIA shall make the broadband inventory map developed and maintained pursuant to this section accessible by the public on a World Wide Web site of the NTIA in 18 a form that is interactive and searchable. 20 (e) UPDATING.—The NTIA shall update the broadband 21 inventory map developed and maintained pursuant to this section to ensure that the information provided by the 23 broadband inventory map is timely and accurate.
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(f) Obtaining Information.—

1	(1) In general.—The NTIA shall request and			
2	obtain such information as may be necessary to carry			
3	out this section from the following:			
4	(A) eligible entities under section 4;			
5	(B) the Commission; and			
6	(C) commercial and public providers of			
7	broadband service capability.			
8	(2) Priority of information requests.—If			
9	the NTIA has not otherwise obtained such informa-			
10	tion pursuant to paragraph (3), the NTIA shall—			
11	(A) first request and try to obtain such in-			
12	formation from such eligible entities before re-			
13	questing and obtaining such information from			
14	the Commission; and			
15	(B) only request such information from			
16	commercial and public providers of broadband			
17	service capability if such information cannot be			
18	obtained in a timely fashion from such eligible			
19	entities or the Commission.			
20	(3) Compatible format.—Such entities or such			
21	providers may elect to provide the NTIA with the in-			
22	formation necessary for displaying a statewide map,			
23	provided that such map meets, at a minimum, the re-			
24	quirements of subsection (b) for that State and such			
25	information is in a format that NTIA is able to in-			

- corporate into the broadband inventory map required
 under this section. Nothing in this paragraph precludes such providers or any such entity, with agreement of the providers concerned, from providing to
 the NTIA, or using for its own purposes, more geographically-specific information than required by
 subsection (b).
- 8 (4) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, INCLUDING WIFI
 9 HOTSPOTS.—The NTIA shall also try to obtain accu10 rate information from reliable publicly available
 11 sources about broadband service capability that is of12 fered to the public but that is not provided by either
 13 a commercial provider or a public provider directly
 14 to the public.
 - (5) OPT-OUT BY PROVIDERS.—Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1)(B), if a provider of broadband service capability requests that the map developed and maintained pursuant to this section shall not depict the information in clause (i) or (ii), or both, of such subsection for a particular area or areas, the NTIA shall comply with such request.
- 22 (g) Protection of Information.—Except for the in-23 formation provided to the public by the NTIA in subsection 24 (d), nothing in this section shall reduce or remove any obli-25 gation the NTIA has to protect proprietary information.

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- 1 nor shall this section be construed to compel the NTIA to
- 2 make publicly available any proprietary information. Not-
- 3 withstanding any other provision of this section, any infor-
- 4 mation obtained by NTIA pursuant to subsection (f) that
- 5 reveals competitively sensitive information of an individual
- 6 provider of broadband service capability shall not be dis-
- 7 closed by NTIA.
- 8 SEC. 4. GRANTS TO STATES FOR BROADBAND MAP DEVEL-
- 9 **OPMENT.**
- 10 (a) In General.—The NTIA may, to the extent
- 11 amounts are made available pursuant to section 10(b) for
- 12 use under this section, make grants to an eligible entity to
- 13 assist in providing the NTIA with information to facilitate
- 14 the development of the broadband inventory map required
- 15 under section 3.
- 16 (b) State Entity Application and Designation.—
- 17 An eligible entity in any State that seeks to obtain a grant
- 18 under this section shall submit an application to the NTIA
- 19 at such time, in such form, and containing such informa-
- 20 tion and assurances as the NTIA may require.
- 21 (c) USE.—Amounts from a grant under this section
- 22 may be used only for costs involved in developing and ob-
- 23 taining information for the broadband inventory map re-
- 24 quired under section 3.
- 25 (d) Conditions.—

1	(1) Information sharing.—As a condition of					
2	receipt of a grant under this section, the eligible enti-					
3	ty shall agree to provide to the NTIA the information					
4	developed or obtained using such grant amounts and					
5	necessary for the broadband inventory map required					
6	under section 3.					
7	(2) Matching requirement.—An eligible enti-					
8	ty may not obtain a grant under this section to carry					
9	out the activities under this section unless such entity					
10	agrees to provide, from non-Federal funds, an amount					
11	equal to not less than 20 percent of the amount of the					
12	grant toward the costs of carrying out such activities.					
13	(e) Grant Criteria.—The NTIA shall select an eligi-					
14	ble entity to receive a grant under this section based upon					
15	criteria that shall include—					
16	(1) whether such entity requesting a grant is or-					
17	ganized on a statewide basis and prepared to develop					
18	information for use by NTIA on a timely basis;					
19	(2) the need of such entity for financial support,					
20	taking into account the financial support from State					
21	or other sources, to fulfill the objectives of this Act,					
22	and					

(3) whether the denial of such entity's grant re-

 $quest\ would —$

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1	(A) result in the inability of such entity to
2	develop information on a timely or comprehen-
3	sive basis; and
4	(B) result in a gap in the information for
5	that State or otherwise thwart the objectives of
6	$this\ Act.$
7	(f) Regulations.—The NTIA shall issue such regula-
8	tions as may be necessary to carry out the functions as-
9	signed under this section.
10	(g) Eligible Entity.—For the purposes of this sec-
11	tion, the term "eligible entity" for any State means—
12	(1) an entity that is either—
13	(A) an agency or instrumentality of that
14	State, or a municipality or other subdivision (or
15	agency or instrumentality of a municipality or
16	other subdivision) of that State; or
17	(B) a nonprofit organization that is de-
18	scribed in section $501(c)(3)$ of the Internal Rev-
19	enue Code of 1986 and that is exempt from tax-
20	ation under section 501(a) of such Code; and
21	(2) the entity is the single eligible entity in such
22	State that has been designated by the State to receive
23	a grant under this section.

1	SEC. 5. GRANTS FOR DEMAND-SIDE BROADBAND SERVICE
2	IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENTS.
3	(a) Grant Authority.—From the amounts appro-
4	priated under section 10(c), the NTIA shall establish a
5	grant program to create and facilitate the work of local
6	technology planning entities that represent a broad cross-
7	section of their community, including representatives of
8	business, telecommunications labor organizations, consumer
9	organizations, elementary and secondary education, health
10	care providers, libraries, higher education, community-
11	based organizations, tribal organizations, and local govern-
12	ment.
13	(b) State Entity Application and Designation.—
14	Each eligible planning entity in any State that seeks to
15	obtain a grant under this section shall submit an applica-
16	tion to the NTIA at such time, in such form, and containing
17	such information and assurances as the NTIA may require.
18	Such application shall contain a demonstration that—
19	(1) the entity is an eligible planning entity; and
20	(2) the eligible planning entity—
21	(A) is the single eligible planning entity in
22	such State that has been designated by the State
23	for an exclusive geographic area within the State
24	to receive a grant under this section; or
25	(B) is the single eligible planning entity
26	that is designated by the governing body of an

1	Indian tribe to receive a grant under this sec-
2	tion.
3	(c) Use of Funds.—Amounts from a grant under this
4	section shall be used to assist an eligible planning entity
5	to—
6	(1) assess the current use of broadband service
7	capability across relevant community sectors;
8	(2) set goals for improving or maximizing such
9	use within each sector;
10	(3) develop a plan for achieving the eligible
11	planning entity's goals, with specific recommenda-
12	tions for identifying and spurring demand for such
13	capability;
14	(4) collaborate with providers of broadband serv-
15	ice capability and other high technology companies to
16	encourage the deployment and use of broadband serv-
17	ice capability in unserved and underserved areas;
18	(5) identify local demand for broadband service
19	capability and aggregate such demand;
20	(6) establish programs, but not acquire equip-
21	ment or facilities, to improve computer ownership
22	and Internet access for unserved and underserved
23	populations; and

1	(7) facilitate the exchange of information regard-					
2	ing the use and demand for broadband service capa-					
3	bility between the public and private sectors.					
4	(d) Prohibition.—Funds made available by a grant					
5	under this section shall not be used for the provision of					
6	broadband service capability or the acquisition of equip-					
7	ment or facilities for such capability, except that this prohi-					
8	bition shall not prohibit an eligible planning entity's use					
9	of such funds to acquire broadband service capability or					
10	equipment or facilities for such capability for use by such					
11	entity in its own conduct of planning activities.					
12	(e) Regulations.—The NTIA shall issue such regula-					
13	tions as may be necessary to carry out the functions as-					
14	signed under this section.					
15	(f) Eligible Planning Entity.—For the purposes of					
16	this section, the term "eligible planning entity" for any					
17	State means—					
18	(1) an agency or instrumentality of that State,					
19	a municipality or other subdivision (or agency or in-					
20	strumentality of a municipality or other subdivision)					
21	of that State, or an Indian tribe; or					
22	(2) a nonprofit organization that is described in					
23	section $501(c)(3)$ of the Internal Revenue Code of					
24	1986 and that is exempt from taxation under section					
25	501(a) of such Code.					

1	SEC. 6. CONSUMER SURVEY OF BROADBAND SERVICE CAPA-			
2	BILITY.			
3	(a) AUTHORITY.—For the purpose of evaluating, on a			
4	statistically significant basis, the national characteristics			
5	of the use of broadband service capability, the Commission			
6	shall conduct and make public periodic surveys of con-			
7	sumers in urban, suburban, and rural areas in the larg			
8	business, small business, and residential consumer markets			
9	to determine the following:			
10	(1) The types of technology used to provide the			
11	broadband service capability to which consumers sub-			
12	scribe.			
13	(2) The amounts consumers pay per month for			
14	such capability.			
15	(3) The actual data transmission speeds of such			
16	capability.			
17	(4) The types of applications and services con-			
18	sumers most frequently use in conjunction with such			
19	capability.			
20	(5) For consumers who have declined to subscribe			
21	to broadband service capability, the reasons given by			
22	such consumers for declining such capability.			
23	(6) Other sources of broadband service capability			
24	which consumers regularly use or on which they rely.			
25	(7) Any other information the Commission			
26	deems appropriate for such purpose.			

1 (b) Public Availability.—The Commission shall make publicly available the results of surveys conducted under this section at least once per year. 3 SEC. 7. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CONSUMER INFORMATION. 5 (a) In General.—The Commission shall, within 180 6 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, promulgate 7 regulations— 8 (1) to protect the confidentiality of personal con-9 sumer information collected for the purposes of this 10 Act: 11 (2) to require the Commission, the NTIA, and 12 each other entity that collects or controls such infor-13 mation for the purposes of this Act (including any el-14 igible entity under section 4, eligible planning entity 15 designated under section 5(b)(2), and commercial and 16 public provider of broadband service capability) to 17 protect the confidentiality of such information; and 18 (3) to permit such information to be disclosed by 19 such entities only to the extent consistent with the 20 provisions and for the purposes of this Act, or with 21 the prior express authorization of the consumer to 22 whom it pertains. 23 (b) Limitation.—The regulations promulgated under subsection (a) shall not preclude the ability of any consumer

or other person or entity to search, by individual street ad-

- 1 dress, the broadband inventory map developed and main-
- 2 tained pursuant to section 3, or any of the individual State
- 3 maps that may compose it.
- 4 SEC. 8. STATE OR LOCAL AUTHORITY.
- 5 Except as provided in section 7, nothing in this Act
- 6 shall be construed to expand or limit the authority of States,
- 7 Indian tribes, or units of local government to compel the
- 8 collection of information.
- 9 SEC. 9. SUNSET PROVISIONS.
- 10 (a) Broadband Deployment Information & Con-
- 11 SUMER SURVEY.—Sections 2 and 6 shall cease to be effective
- 12 after the end of the 6-year period beginning on the date
- 13 of the enactment of this Act.
- 14 (b) Broadband Inventory Map.—Section 3 shall
- 15 cease to be effective after the end of the 7-year period begin-
- 16 ning on the date of enactment of this Act.
- 17 SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.
- 18 (a) In General.—There is authorized to be appro-
- 19 priated to carry out sections 3 and 4 of this Act—
- 20 (1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;
- 21 (2) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and
- 22 (3) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.
- 23 (b) Broadband Map Information Development
- 24 Grants.—Of any amounts appropriated in each fiscal

year pursuant to subsection (a), not less than \$15,000,000 shall be available only for grants under section 4. 3 (c) Local Technology Planning Grants.—In addition to the amount appropriated under subsection (a), there is authorized to be appropriated to make grants under 6 section 5— 7 (1) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; 8 (2) \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and 9 (3) \$125,000,000 for fiscal year 2010. 10 SEC. 11. DEFINITIONS. 11 For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions 12 shall apply: 13 BROADBAND SERVICE CAPABILITY.—The 14 term "broadband service capability" means an Inter-15 net Protocol-based transmission service that is offered 16 to end users to enable such end users to send and re-17 ceive voice, video, data, graphics, or a combination, 18 to or from the Internet without regard to any trans-19 mission media or technology. 20 Commission.—The term"Commission" 21 means the Federal Communications Commission. 22 (3) Indian tribe" has 23 the meaning given in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-24 Determination and Education Assistance Act (25) 25 $U.S.C.\ 450b(e)$.

1	(4) NTIA.—The term "NTIA" means the Na-				
2	tional Telecommunications and Information Admin-				
3	istration of the Department of Commerce.				
4	(5) Personal consumer information.—The				
5	term "personal consumer information"—				
6	(A) means information that allows a				
7	human being to be identified individually;				
8	(B) includes the following information with				
9	respect to an individual:				
10	(i) the first and last name;				
11	(ii) a home or physical address;				
12	(iii) a date or place of birth;				
13	(iv) an email address or a telephone				
14	number;				
15	(v) a Social Security account number,				
16	tax identification number, birth certificate				
17	number, passport number, driver's license				
18	number, or any other any government-				
19	issued identification number; or				
20	(vi) a credit card number or bank ac-				
21	count or card number; and				
22	(C) does not include any record of aggregate				
23	information that does not permit the identifica-				
24	tion of particular individuals.				
25	(6) Provider.—				

- (A) Public provider.—The term "public" when used with respect to a provider of broadband service capability means a provider that is an agency or instrumentality of a State, or a municipality or other subdivision (or agen-cy or instrumentality of a municipality or other subdivision) of a State, regardless of the facilities used.
 - (B) Commercial Provider.—The term "commercial" when used with respect to a provider of broadband service capability means a provider that offers broadband service capability for a fee, or on an advertising-supported basis, directly to the public or to such classes of users as to be effectively available to the public, regardless of the facilities used.
 - (7) STATE.—The term "State" means the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other territory and possession of the United States.

Union Calendar No. 274

110TH CONGRESS H. R. 3919

[Report No. 110-443]

A BILL

To provide for a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband service, and for other purposes.

NOVEMBER 13, 2007

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed