

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 899

To establish an assistance program for the construction of digital TV translators to fill coverage gaps that are created from the transition from analog to digital signals.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 27, 2009

Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To establish an assistance program for the construction of digital TV translators to fill coverage gaps that are created from the transition from analog to digital signals.

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 “DTV Cliff Effect As-
5 sistance Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. DIGITAL TRANSLATOR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary for
9 Communications and Information of the Department

1 of Commerce shall make payments of not to exceed
2 \$125,000,000, in the aggregate, during fiscal years
3 2009 through 2012 from the Digital Television
4 Transition and Public Safety Fund established
5 under section 309(j)(8)(E) of the Communications
6 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 309(j)(8)(E)) to implement
7 and administer a program through which a local civil
8 government body may receive funding for the con-
9 struction and equipment of digital TV translators to
10 fill gaps in the digital coverage for full-power sta-
11 tions, where such gaps were created from the con-
12 version of the signal of such station from analog to
13 digital format.

14 (2) FACILITATION OF COLLOCATION.—Any
15 translator tower that is constructed pursuant to
16 paragraph (1) shall reasonably facilitate the colloca-
17 tion of any wireless communications or broadband
18 equipment. The requirement under this paragraph
19 shall not apply if there is clear evidence of any sig-
20 nal interference issues that cannot be resolved as re-
21 sult of such collocation.

22 (b) CERTIFICATION.—The Assistant Secretary shall
23 certify with the Federal Communications Commission that
24 the location of any proposed digital TV translator de-
25 scribed under subsection (a) is in an area where signal

- 1 coverage was lost due to the transition from analog to dig-
- 2 ital broadcast signals.

