

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 43

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to prioritize the timely processing of certain long-form applications in the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I auction.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to prioritize the timely processing of certain long-form applications in the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I auction.

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 “Rural Broadband Win-  
5 dow of Opportunity Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7 The purpose of this Act is to level the playing field  
8 for service providers participating in the Rural Digital Op-

1 portunity Fund that are disadvantaged by short construc-  
2 tion seasons.

3 **SEC. 3. APPLICATION PROCESSING PRIORITIZATION.**

4       With respect to the long-form applicants of the Rural  
5 Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I auction provided for  
6 in the Report and Order in the matter of Rural Digital  
7 Opportunity Fund and Connect America Fund adopted by  
8 the Federal Communications Commission (in this section  
9 referred to as the “Commission”) on December 7, 2020  
10 (FCC 20–5), the Commission shall prioritize the timely  
11 processing of long-form applications and any subsequent  
12 paperwork (in this section referred to as the “applica-  
13 tions”) submitted by the long-form applicants as follows:  
14 The Commission shall prioritize the timely processing of  
15 applications which are proposing to provide service in geo-  
16 graphic areas which the Commission determines to have  
17 the shortest construction seasons (such as in areas charac-  
18 terized by long winters with heavy snowfall).

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