

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3125

To amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to provide technical assistance to expand access to broadband service in rural communities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2025

Mr. TAYLOR (for himself and Mr. SORENSEN) 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 amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to provide technical assistance to expand access to broadband service in rural communities.

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 As-
5 sistance Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC NOTICE, ASSESSMENTS, TECHNICAL AS-**
2 **SISTANCE, AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

3 Section 701 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936
4 (7 U.S.C. 950cc) is amended—

5 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “**TECH-**
6 **NICAL ASSISTANCE**,” before “**AND**”; and

7 (2) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the
8 following:

9 “(e) BROADBAND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PRO-
10 GRAM.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make
12 grants to private, nonprofit, or public organizations
13 to provide or receive eligible entities broadband tech-
14 nical assistance and training to expand access to
15 broadband service in rural communities through the
16 broadband programs of the Department of Agri-
17 culture including—

18 “(A) preparing applications for grants,
19 loans and loan guarantees under this section;

20 “(B) identifying resources to finance
21 broadband facilities from public and private
22 sources, including other Federal agencies;

23 “(C) preparing feasibility studies, financial
24 forecasts, market surveys, environmental stud-
25 ies, and technical design information to support
26 broadband services;

1 “(D) preparing reports and surveys nec-
2 essary to support the need for broadband serv-
3 ices, the price range, and request financial as-
4 sistance;

5 “(E) analyzing and improving operation
6 related to the management, including financial
7 management, of broadband facilities and to the
8 efficiency of the entity;

9 “(F) collecting broadband infrastructure
10 data; or

11 “(G) assisting with other areas of need
12 identified by the Secretary.

13 “(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to ob-
14 tain assistance under this subsection, an entity shall
15 be—

16 “(A) a federally recognized Tribe or Tribal
17 entity;

18 “(B) a State or local government, includ-
19 ing any agency, subdivision, instrumentality, or
20 political subdivision thereof;

21 “(C) a territory or possession of the
22 United States;

23 “(D) an institution of higher education (in-
24 cluding a 1862 Land-Grant Institution, 1890
25 Land-Grant Institution, 1994 Land-Grant In-

1 stitution, Hispanic-Serving Institution, or His-
2 torically Black College or University);

3 “(E) a nonprofit organization described in
4 section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
5 of 1986;

6 “(F) a cooperative or mutual organization;

7 “(G) a corporation; or

8 “(H) a limited liability company or limited
9 liability partnership.

10 “(3) SELECTION PRIORITY.—In selecting recipi-
11 ents of grants under this paragraph, the Secretary
12 shall give priority to organizations that have experi-
13 ence in providing technical assistance and training
14 to rural entities.

15 “(4) NATIONAL APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary
16 shall allow applications for grants under this para-
17 graph from qualified organizations for the sole pur-
18 pose of providing on-site community technical assist-
19 ance and training on a national or multi-State re-
20 gional basis.”.

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