

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2668

To require the Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to provide assistance relating to broadband access, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2021

Mr. TESTER (for Ms. ROSEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth at the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to provide assistance relating to broadband access, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. ASSISTANCE FOR STATE AND TRIBAL**
4 **BROADBAND ACCESS PROGRAMS.**

5 Subsection (c) of the ACCESS BROADBAND Act
6 (section 903 of division FF of the Consolidated Appropria-
7 tions Act, 2021 (Public Law 116–260)) is amended by
8 adding at the end the following:

1 “(3) FUND.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—There is established a
3 fund within the National Telecommunications
4 and Information Administration, which shall be
5 managed by the Office, to provide assistance to
6 States and Tribal governments to support of-
7 fices, agencies, or other entities that oversee
8 broadband programs and broadband deploy-
9 ment in the State, with priority given to States
10 that—

11 “(i) do not have such an active office,
12 agency, or entity; or

13 “(ii) need to increase the capacity of
14 such an office, agency, or entity.

15 “(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
16 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
17 such sums as may be necessary to the fund es-
18 tablished under subparagraph (A).

19 “(4) TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASSISTANCE.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall pro-
21 vide technical and other assistance to States
22 and Tribal governments—

23 “(i) to support the expansion of
24 broadband, with priority for expansion in
25 rural and Tribal areas and States that

1 consistent rate at the bottom of broadband
2 access and deployment; and

3 “(ii) regarding cybersecurity resources
4 and programs available through Federal
5 agencies, including the Election Assistance
6 Commission, the Cybersecurity and Infra-
7 structure Security Agency, the Federal
8 Trade Commission, and the National
9 Science Foundation.

10 “(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
11 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
12 such sums as may be necessary to carry out
13 this paragraph.”.

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