

Bill Fact Sheet - December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/108/s/196

S 196

Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jan 17, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness. (Jul 21, 2003)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/196

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Allen, George [R-VA]

Party: Republican • State: VA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (26 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hollings, Ernest F. [D-SC]	D·SC	Jan 17, 2003
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	$R \cdot AZ$	Jan 17, 2003
Sen. Miller, Zell [D-GA]	$D \cdot GA$	Jan 17, 2003
Sen. Stevens, Ted [R-AK]	$R \cdot AK$	Jan 17, 2003
Sen. DeWine, Mike [R-OH]	$R \cdot OH$	Jan 22, 2003
Sen. Warner, John [R-VA]	$R \cdot VA$	Jan 22, 2003
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	$R \cdot MS$	Jan 28, 2003
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	$R \cdot SC$	Jan 28, 2003
Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]	$R \cdot IA$	Jan 28, 2003
Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]	$R \cdot TX$	Jan 28, 2003
Sen. Sessions, Jeff [R-AL]	$R \cdot AL$	Jan 28, 2003
Sen. Campbell, Ben Nighthorse [R-CO]	$R \cdot CO$	Feb 4, 2003
Sen. Lott, Trent [R-MS]	$R \cdot MS$	Feb 4, 2003
Sen. Santorum, Rick [R-PA]	$R \cdot PA$	Feb 4, 2003
Sen. Fitzgerald, Peter [R-IL]	$R \cdot IL$	Feb 6, 2003
Sen. Domenici, Pete V. [R-NM]	$R \cdot NM$	Feb 10, 2003
Sen. Talent, Jim [R-MO]	$R \cdot MO$	Feb 10, 2003
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	$D \cdot MA$	Mar 18, 2003
Sen. Bingaman, Jeff [D-NM]	$D \cdot NM$	Apr 9, 2003
Sen. Daschle, Thomas A. [D-SD]	$D \cdot SD$	Apr 9, 2003
Sen. Johnson, Tim [D-SD]	$D \cdot SD$	Apr 11, 2003
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	$R \cdot AK$	Apr 11, 2003
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	$D \cdot WA$	Apr 30, 2003
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE	Apr 30, 2003
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA	Apr 30, 2003
Sen. Lincoln, Blanche L. [D-AR]	D · AR	Apr 30, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Apr 7, 2003
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 21, 2003
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	May 7, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 2801	Text similarities	Nov 22, 2004: House Committee on Education and the Workforce Granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than Dec. 10, 2004.

Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2003 - Establishes within the National Science Foundation (NSF) an Office of Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology to: (1) award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements (assistance) to eligible institutions to provide educational instruction in digital and wireless network technologies; and (2) strengthen the national digital and wireless infrastructure by increasing national investment in telecommunications and technology infrastructure at eligible institutions.

Requires the NSF Director to establish an advisory council on the best approaches for involving eligible institutions in supported activities and for reviewing and evaluating submitted proposals. Requires the council to include members from minority serving institutions.

Makes the following institutions eligible for such assistance: (1) a historically Black college or university; (2) a Hispanic-, Alaska Native-, or Native Hawaiian-serving institution; (3) a tribally controlled college or university; or (4) an institution determined to have enrolled a substantial number of minority, low-income students who received assistance under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Provides a matching funds requirement.

Prohibits an institution that receives assistance exceeding \$2.5 million from receiving further assistance until every other eligible institution has received assistance under this Act.

Requires each institution receiving such assistance to report annually to the Director on its use of such assistance. Requires the Director to review such reports, evaluate such assistance program, and report recommendations to Congress, including recommendations on the continuing need for Federal support of the program.

Authorizes appropriations for FY 2004 through 2008.

Actions Timeline

- Jul 21, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on 21st Century Competitiveness.
- May 7, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Research.
- May 1, 2003: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- May 1, 2003: Received in the House.
- May 1, 2003: Referred to the Committee on Science, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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.
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- Apr 30, 2003: Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S5504-5511)
- Apr 30, 2003: Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with amendments by Yea-Nay. 97 0. Record Vote Number: 136.(text: CR S5510-5511)
- Apr 30, 2003: Passed Senate with amendments by Yea-Nay. 97 0. Record Vote Number: 136. (text: CR S5510-5511)
- Apr 7, 2003: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain with amendments. With written report No. 108-34.
- Apr 7, 2003: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain with amendments. With written report No. 108-34.
- Apr 7, 2003: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 60.
- Mar 13, 2003: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with amendments favorably.
- Feb 13, 2003: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Hearings held.
- Jan 17, 2003: Introduced in Senate
- Jan 17, 2003: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S1151-1152)
- Jan 17, 2003: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S1152-1153)