

HR 144

Rural America Digital Accessibility Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jan 4, 2005

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet. (Feb 4, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/house-bill/144>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McHugh, John M. [R-NY-23]

Party: Republican • State: NY • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Hunter, Duncan [R-CA-52]	R · CA		Sep 6, 2005
Rep. Edwards, Chet [D-TX-17]	D · TX		May 25, 2006

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 4, 2005
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 4, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Rural America Digital Accessibility Act - Authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to make grants or guarantee loans in order to facilitate the deployment by the private sector of broadband telecommunications networks and capabilities (including wireless and satellite services) to underserved rural areas. Limits to \$100 million the total amount of such grants and loan guarantees.

Requires the Director of the National Science Foundation to research the enhancement or facilitation of broadband telecommunications services in rural and other remote areas, as well as Internet access through such services.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to provide a tax credit to holders of qualified technology bonds (bonds representing an investment in projects to expand such telecommunications services). Sets a national technology bond limitation of \$100 million for each of FY 2005 through 2009, and zero thereafter (with an exception) to be allocated by the Secretary among the qualified projects designated each year.

Directs the Secretary to provide financial assistance for the establishment and support of regional centers for the commercial use of advanced technologies by small and medium-sized businesses.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 4, 2005:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.
- **Jan 4, 2005:** Introduced in House
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- **Jan 4, 2005:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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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