

---

## HR 1083

Rural Broadband Initiative Act

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Science, Technology, Communications

**Introduced:** Mar 15, 2011

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture.  
(Mar 22, 2011)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/1083>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Owens, William L. [D-NY-23]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 22, 2011
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 21, 2011

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Science, Technology, Communications

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

Rural Broadband Initiative Act - Amends the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to establish in the Department of Agriculture (USDA) the Office of Rural Broadband Initiatives, to be headed by the Under Secretary for Rural Broadband Initiatives.

States that the Under Secretary shall: (1) administer all rural broadband-related grant and loan programs previously administered by the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service, including the rural broadband access loan and loan guarantee program and the community connect grant program; (2) conduct rural outreach; (3) foster development of a comprehensive rural broadband strategic vision; (4) assess relevant technologies; (5) serve as a single information source for all federal rural broadband programs and services; and (6) provide technical assistance to state, regional, and local governments to develop broadband deployment strategies.

Directs the Under Secretary to submit: (1) a comprehensive rural broadband strategy report to the President and to Congress, and (2) a plan for a Rural Broadband Advisory Panel to Congress.

### **Actions Timeline**

---

- **Mar 22, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Rural Development, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture.
- **Mar 21, 2011:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Mar 15, 2011:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 15, 2011:** 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.