

S 28

Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act

Congress: 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jan 25, 2011

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S146-149) (Jan 25, 2011)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/senate-bill/28>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Rockefeller, John D., IV [D-WV]

Party: Democratic • **State:** WV • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cardin, Benjamin L. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jan 25, 2011
Sen. Harkin, Tom [D-IA]	D · IA		Jan 25, 2011
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jan 25, 2011
Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 25, 2011
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Jan 25, 2011
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 14, 2011
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Feb 15, 2011
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		Mar 14, 2011
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Mar 17, 2011
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 14, 2011
Sen. Franken, Al [D-MN]	D · MN		May 17, 2011
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 6, 2011
Sen. Mikulski, Barbara A. [D-MD]	D · MD		Jun 6, 2011
Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]	D · WV		Jun 7, 2011
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Sep 22, 2011

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 25, 2011

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 2482	Related bill	Aug 15, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces.
112 HR 1622	Related bill	Apr 25, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
112 HR 911	Related bill	Mar 11, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
112 S 455	Related bill	Mar 2, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
112 HR 607	Related bill	Feb 28, 2011: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
112 S 415	Related bill	Feb 17, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Summary (as of Jan 25, 2011)

Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act - Directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to: (1) ensure the deployment of a nationwide public safety interoperable broadband network in the 700 MHz band which is deployed in both rural and urban areas; (2) reallocate and integrate the 700 MHz D block spectrum for use by public safety entities; (3) permit flexible use of the narrowband spectrum; (4) ensure that the nationwide public safety broadband network is fully interoperable on a nationwide basis; and (5) establish a 10-year public safety advisory board.

Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to increase the electromagnetic spectrum allocation for public safety services by 10 megahertz.

Permits the FCC, if consistent with the public interest for a licensee to relinquish voluntarily some or all of its licensed spectrum usage rights in order to permit the assignment of new initial licenses, to disburse to that licensee portions of the auction proceeds related to the new use that are attributable to the licensee's relinquished spectrum usage.

Extends FCC auction authority until September 30, 2020.

Authorizes secondary use of the public safety spectrum, subject to specified limitations and conditions.

Establishes in the Treasury: (1) the Public Safety Interoperable Broadband Network Construction Fund; and (2) the Public Safety Interoperable Broadband Network Maintenance and Operation Fund.

Directs the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish a grant program to assist public safety entities establish a nationwide public safety interoperable broadband network in the 700 MHz band.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 25, 2011:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S146)
- **Jan 25, 2011:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S146-149)