

HR 4160

Rural Broadband Infrastructure Investment Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Dec 2, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit. (Dec 18, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4160>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]

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

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Nolan, Richard M. [D-MN-8]	D · MN		Dec 2, 2015
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Dec 2, 2015
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Feb 23, 2016
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Mar 1, 2016
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Mar 7, 2016
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Mar 10, 2016
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]	D · TX		Apr 14, 2016
Rep. Kirkpatrick, Ann [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Apr 26, 2016
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Apr 26, 2016
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Apr 26, 2016
Rep. Takai, Mark [D-HI-1]	D · HI		May 10, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 18, 2015
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 4, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Rural Broadband Infrastructure Investment Act

This bill amends the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to authorize the Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide additional loans and grants for the development of telecommunications and broadband services in rural areas.

USDA may give preference to loan applications for projects that support the development of telecommunications services in rural areas on a multijurisdictional basis.

In evaluating applications, USDA must consider whether:

- the project was developed through the collaboration and participation of multiple stakeholders in the service area;
- the applicant understands the regional resources that could support the project, including natural resources, human resources, infrastructure, and financial resources; and
- the project has clear objectives and a means to establish performance measures.

For the purpose of loans, loan guarantees, and grants, a rural area is any area of the United States not included within the boundaries of any incorporated or unincorporated city, village, or borough having a population in excess of 20,000 inhabitants.

USDA may provide grants, in addition to loans and loan guarantees permitted under current law, for the construction, improvement, and acquisition of facilities and equipment for broadband service in rural areas. In providing loans, loan guarantees, and grants, USDA may give priority to multijurisdictional projects for the development of broadband service in rural areas that are developed through the collaboration and participation of multiple stakeholders in the service area.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 18, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit.
- **Dec 4, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Dec 2, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 2, 2015:** 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.