

## HR 6336

B-CROP Act of 2016

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Nov 17, 2016

**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 9, 2016)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/6336>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]

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

### Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]	R · NY		Nov 17, 2016
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Nov 29, 2016
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Nov 29, 2016
Rep. Kuster, Ann M. [D-NH-2]	D · NH		Dec 1, 2016
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3]	D · CA		Dec 6, 2016

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 9, 2016
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred To	Nov 17, 2016

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 3408	Related bill	Sep 28, 2016: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

## **Broadband Connections for Rural Opportunities Program Act of 2016 or the B-CROP Act of 2016**

This bill amends the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to include grants in the Department of Agriculture (USDA) program that provides loans and loan guarantees for broadband telecommunications services in rural areas.

In making grants, loans, or loan guarantees under the program, USDA must give the highest priority to applicants that offer to provide broadband service to the greatest proportion of unserved rural households or rural households that do not have the minimum acceptable level of residential broadband service.

USDA must then give priority to projects to serve rural communities that:

- have a population of less than 10,000 permanent residents,
- are experiencing out-migration,
- have a high percentage of low-income residents, and
- are isolated from other significant population centers.

A grant may not exceed 50% of the development cost of the project. USDA may increase the limit to 75% for projects that serve a remote or low-income area that does not have access to broadband service from any provider.

The bill sets forth reporting requirements for recipients of the grants, loans, or loan guarantees.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 9, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit.
- **Nov 17, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 17, 2016:** 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.