

S 3360

Broadband Internet for Small Ports Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Aug 21, 2018

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Sponsor introductory

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S5761) (Aug 21, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3360>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 21, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2	Related bill	Dec 20, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-334.
115 S 3042	Related bill	Jun 18, 2018: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 470.
115 HR 4232	Related bill	Dec 5, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit.
115 S 1676	Related bill	Jul 31, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Broadband Internet for Small Ports Act

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: (1) the highest priority to project applicants that offer to provide broadband service to unserved rural households that do not have any residential broadband service, and (2) priority to applicants that offer to provide the maximum level of broadband service to the greatest proportion of rural households.

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 costs of a 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.

Actions Timeline

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