

## HR 3994

### ACCESS BROADBAND Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Oct 6, 2017

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transp

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Jul 24, 2018)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/3994>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]

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

### Cosponsors (17 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lance, Leonard [R-NJ-7]	R · NJ		Oct 6, 2017
Rep. Brooks, Susan W. [R-IN-5]	R · IN		Nov 9, 2017
Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1]	R · WV		Nov 9, 2017
Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [D-PA-14]	D · PA		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Nov 16, 2017
Rep. Bucshon, Larry [R-IN-8]	R · IN		Nov 30, 2017
Rep. O'Halleran, Tom [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Dec 18, 2017
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Jan 17, 2018
Rep. Butterfield, G. K. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		Mar 5, 2018
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Mar 5, 2018
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Mar 5, 2018
Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]	D · IL		Mar 5, 2018
Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]	R · NY		Mar 13, 2018
Rep. Collins, Chris [R-NY-27]	R · NY		Apr 17, 2018
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Jun 12, 2018
Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]	R · VA		Jul 12, 2018

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 24, 2018
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Reported by	Jun 13, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 3346	Related bill	Aug 1, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Summary (as of Jul 23, 2018)

Advancing Critical Connectivity Expands Service, Small Business Resources, Opportunities, Access, and Data Based on Assessed Need and Demand Act or the ACCESS BROADBAND Act

(Sec. 2) This bill requires the Department of Commerce to establish the Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

(Sec. 3) The office shall:

- connect with communities that need access to high-speed Internet and improved digital inclusion efforts,
- hold regional workshops to share best practices and effective strategies for promoting broadband access and adoption,
- develop targeted broadband training and presentations for various demographic communities through media,
- develop and distribute publications providing guidance to communities for expanding broadband access and adoption, and
- track construction and use of and access to any broadband infrastructure built using federal support.

The office must report annually: (1) a description of the office's work, (2) the number of U.S. residents who received broadband as result of federal broadband programs and the Universal Service Fund program, and (3) an estimate of the economic impact of such broadband deployment efforts on the local economy.

(Sec. 4) The office shall consult with any agency offering a federal broadband support program in order to streamline the application process for financial assistance or grants and create one application that may be submitted to apply for all federal broadband support programs.

(Sec. 5) The office, any agency that offers a federal broadband support program, and the Federal Communications Commission through the Universal Service Fund shall coordinate to ensure that broadband support is being distributed in an efficient, technology-neutral, and financially sustainable manner.

(Sec. 7) No additional funds are authorized to carry out this bill.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jul 24, 2018:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
- **Jul 23, 2018:** Mr. Lance moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 23, 2018:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6608-6610)
- **Jul 23, 2018:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 3994.
- **Jul 23, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H6608-6609)
- **Jul 23, 2018:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H6608-6609)
- **Jul 23, 2018:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 18, 2018:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 115-841.
- **Jul 18, 2018:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 650.
- **Jul 12, 2018:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 12, 2018:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jun 13, 2018:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 13, 2018:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote .
- **Oct 13, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Oct 6, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 6, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.