

HR 4824

Rural Broadband Permitting Efficiency Act of 2018

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jan 18, 2018

Current Status: Received in the Senate.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate. (Sep 17, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4824>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Curtis, John R. [R-UT-3]

Party: Republican • **State:** UT • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (12 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Buck, Ken [R-CO-4]	R · CO		Jan 18, 2018
Rep. Gianforte, Greg [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Jan 18, 2018
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		Jan 18, 2018
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Jan 18, 2018
Rep. Noem, Kristi L. [R-SD-At Large]	R · SD		Jan 18, 2018
Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2]	R · NM		Jan 18, 2018
Rep. Stewart, Chris [R-UT-2]	R · UT		Jan 18, 2018
Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Jan 18, 2018
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Jan 29, 2018
Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Jun 5, 2018
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		Jun 6, 2018
Rep. Lamborn, Doug [R-CO-5]	R · CO		Jun 7, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 8, 2018
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	Jun 6, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 604	Related bill	Mar 9, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Rural Broadband Permitting Efficiency Act of 2018

(Sec. 3) This bill requires the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of the Interior to establish a program to enter into memoranda of understanding with states and Indian tribes to allow for the permitting of broadband within an operational right-of-way to enable broadband providers to install infrastructure that allows users to originate and receive high-quality voice, data, graphics, and video telecommunications, with respect to National Forest System land, land managed by Interior, and Indian land.

The "operational right-of-way" is defined as all real property interests (including easements) acquired for the construction or operation of a project.

A state's governor, the governor's designee, or an officer designated by the governing body of the Indian tribe may enter into such a memorandum for a term not to exceed 10 years if the state or Indian tribe consents to: (1) federal court jurisdiction, (2) federal environmental review procedures, (3) judicial review of decisions regarding the public availability of documents, (4) maintenance of necessary financial resources, (5) the provision of any information that USDA or Interior needs to ensure that the state is carrying out its responsibilities, (6) the provision of revenues generated from the use of public lands to the United States, and (7) the provision of a copy of authorizing documents to the United States for proper notation and recordkeeping.

(Sec. 4) USDA or Interior must establish a broadband permit streamlining team in each state or regional office with responsibility for issuing permits for broadband projects. Under the program, USDA or Interior shall coordinate and expedite permitting decisions for broadband projects through a memorandum of understanding with USDA or Interior, as appropriate, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 17, 2018:** Received in the Senate.
- **Sep 12, 2018:** Mr. Gianforte moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Sep 12, 2018:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H8130-8133)
- **Sep 12, 2018:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4824.
- **Sep 12, 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 H8130-8131)
- **Sep 12, 2018:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H8130-8131)
- **Sep 12, 2018:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 12, 2018:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **Aug 3, 2018:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 115-881, Part I.
- **Aug 3, 2018:** Committee on Agriculture discharged.
- **Aug 3, 2018:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 679.
- **Jun 6, 2018:** Subcommittee on Federal Lands Discharged.
- **Jun 6, 2018:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 6, 2018:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **May 17, 2018:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Feb 8, 2018:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **Jan 23, 2018:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Federal Lands.
- **Jan 18, 2018:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 18, 2018:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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.