

## HR 4881

Precision Agriculture Connectivity Act of 2018

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Jan 25, 2018

**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/4881>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Loebsack, David [D-IA-2]	D · IA		Jan 25, 2018
Rep. Hartzler, Vicky [R-MO-4]	R · MO		Feb 26, 2018
Rep. Luetkemeyer, Blaine [R-MO-3]	R · MO		Feb 26, 2018
Rep. Blum, Rod [R-IA-1]	R · IA		Feb 27, 2018
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Apr 11, 2018
Rep. Brooks, Susan W. [R-IN-5]	R · IN		May 7, 2018
Rep. Young, David [R-IA-3]	R · IA		May 10, 2018
Rep. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN-7]	R · TN		Jun 21, 2018
Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]	R · VA		Jul 16, 2018
Rep. Walden, Greg [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Jul 17, 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 HR 2	Related bill	<b>Dec 20, 2018:</b> Became Public Law No: 115-334.
115 S 2343	Identical bill	<b>Dec 10, 2018:</b> Held at the desk.

## Summary (as of Jul 23, 2018)

### Precision Agriculture Connectivity Act of 2018

(Sec. 3) This bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish the Task Force for Reviewing the Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States.

The task force's duties include:

- identifying and measuring current gaps in the availability of broadband Internet access service on agricultural land;
- developing policy recommendations to promote the rapid, expanded deployment of fixed and mobile broadband Internet access service on unserved agricultural land, with a goal of achieving reliable capabilities on 95% of agricultural land in the United States by 2025;
- promoting effective policy and regulatory solutions that encourage the adoption of broadband Internet access service on farms and ranches and promote precision agriculture;
- recommending specific new rules or amendments to existing FCC rules;
- recommending specific steps that the FCC should take to obtain reliable and standardized data measurements of the availability of broadband Internet access service as necessary to target funding support, from future FCC programs dedicated to the deployment of such service, to unserved agricultural land; and
- recommending specific steps that the FCC should consider to ensure that the expertise of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and available farm data are reflected in such future FCC programs.

USDA and the FCC shall jointly submit to the task force a list of all federal programs or resources available for the expansion of broadband Internet access service on unserved agricultural land.

The task force must submit annually to the FCC a report that details: (1) the status of fixed and mobile broadband Internet access service coverage of agricultural land; (2) the projected future connectivity need of agricultural operations, farmers, and ranchers; and (3) steps taken to accurately measure the availability of broadband Internet access service on agricultural land and the limitations of current measurement processes.

The FCC shall renew the task force every two years until it terminates on January 1, 2025.

(Sec. 4) 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 H6595-6597)
- **Jul 23, 2018:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4881.
- **Jul 23, 2018:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Jul 23, 2018:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H6632-6633)
- **Jul 23, 2018:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 378 - 4 (Roll no. 367).(text: CR H6595-6596)
- **Jul 23, 2018:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 378 - 4 (Roll no. 367). (text: CR H6595-6596)
- **Jul 23, 2018:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 23, 2018:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 18, 2018:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 115-837.
- **Jul 18, 2018:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 647.
- **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 .
- **Jan 26, 2018:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Jan 25, 2018:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 25, 2018:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.