

## HR 4947

### Rural Infrastructure Development and Partnerships Act

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Agriculture and Food

**Introduced:** Feb 6, 2018

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit. (Mar 8, 2018)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/4947>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5]

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

## Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Faso, John J. [R-NY-19]	R · NY		Feb 6, 2018
Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24]	R · NY		Feb 6, 2018
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Feb 6, 2018

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 8, 2018

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

## Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## Rural Infrastructure Development and Partnerships Act

This bill establishes within the Department of Agriculture a Rural Partnerships Office to be headed by a director appointed by the President.

The duties of the office include:

- establishing and running a program to provide technical assistance to improve delivery, financing, operations, and maintenance of rural infrastructure;
- establishing an online clearinghouse of best practices;
- providing grants to assist rural communities in developing cost-effective infrastructure projects; and
- coordinating activities of rural liaisons to develop guidelines for rural funding or financing programs at federal agencies and identify opportunities to work across agencies.

The bill also requires each federal agency that provides financial assistance to a rural community for an activity related to rural infrastructure to designate a rural liaison to:

- review and make recommendations regarding regulations, guidance, and procedures that present hardships to rural communities;
- participate in reviewing applications for technical assistance;
- serve as an ombudsperson for rural communities; and
- meet regularly with other rural liaisons to coordinate efforts and identify ways to work together to support rural infrastructure needs.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Mar 8, 2018:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit.
- **Feb 6, 2018:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 6, 2018:** Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.