

## HR 292

Rural Broadband Permitting Efficiency Act of 2019

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

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

**Introduced:** Jan 8, 2019

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. (Feb 8, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/292>

### Sponsor

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

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

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Foxx, Virginia [R-NC-5]	R · NC		Nov 17, 2020

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 8, 2019
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 5, 2019

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Rural Broadband Permitting Efficiency Act of 2019

This bill authorizes federal departments to delegate federal environmental compliance for broadband projects to states and Indian tribes.

Specifically, the bill requires the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Department of the Interior to establish a voluntary program whereby states or Indian tribes may opt-in to an agreement allowing them to take on the responsibility of environmental review for the permitting of broadband projects.

Such projects must be located within an operational right-of-way (all real property interests acquired for the construction or operation of a project) on (1) national forest system land, (2) land managed by Interior, or (3) Indian lands.

USDA and Interior shall also establish broadband permit streamlining teams to coordinate and expedite permitting decisions for broadband projects.

### Actions Timeline

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- **Feb 8, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **Feb 5, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.
- **Jan 8, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 8, 2019:** 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.