

## S 4383

### ACCESS Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Transportation and Public Works

**Introduced:** Jul 30, 2020

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Jul 30, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4383>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 30, 2020

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 8326	Related bill	<b>Nov 18, 2020:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.
116 HR 7683	Related bill	<b>Jul 21, 2020:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.

## **Affordable Child Care for Economic Strategies and Success Act or the ACCESS Act**

This bill authorizes the Department of Commerce to provide grants for public works and economic development projects that will directly or indirectly increase the accessibility of affordable, quality child care, including grants for planning, and training, research, and technical assistance related to such projects.

Commerce must issue regulations to establish criteria for whether a project directly or indirectly increases the accessibility of affordable, quality child care. Such criteria shall consider (1) the availability, validity, and accessibility of timely data, (2) the extent to which a project contributes to a family's financial security, and (3) the extent to which a project addresses child care needs in child care deserts or areas otherwise recognized as experiencing a shortage. A child care desert is an area in which the number of children who are under age five is more than three times the number of slots provided by child care providers who are licensed or registered by the state involved, or a community that the state or tribal entity involved determines has a low supply of quality, affordable child care.

Commerce must also issue guidance on how to include the accessibility of affordable, quality child care in a comprehensive economic development strategy.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 30, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 30, 2020:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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