

HR 7447

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to take certain actions to accelerate the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I auction, and for other purposes.

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jul 1, 2020

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. (Jul 1, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/7447>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Clyburn, James E. [D-SC-6]

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

Cosponsors (22 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Balderson, Troy [R-OH-12] | R · OH | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Bustos, Cheri [D-IL-17] | D · IL | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Cox, TJ [D-CA-21] | D · CA | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3] | R · SC | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5] | D · NJ | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5] | D · CT | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2] | D · IL | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5] | R · SC | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4] | R · MS | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Reed, Tom [R-NY-23] | R · NY | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Rice, Tom [R-SC-7] | R · SC | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7] | D · VA | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3] | D · NY | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2] | D · MS | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6] | D · MD | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Upton, Fred [R-MI-6] | R · MI | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2] | R · SC | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Wright, Ron [R-TX-6] | R · TX | | Jul 1, 2020 |
| Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6] | D · WA | | Jul 9, 2020 |
| Rep. Morelle, Joseph D. [D-NY-25] | D · NY | | Jul 9, 2020 |
| Rep. Stauber, Pete [R-MN-8] | R · MN | | Jul 9, 2020 |
| Rep. Gibbs, Bob [R-OH-7] | R · OH | | Jul 24, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House | Referred To | Jul 1, 2020 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 116 S 4201 | Related bill | Jul 2, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. |
| 116 HR 7022 | Related bill | May 27, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. |

Summary (as of Jul 1, 2020)

This bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to take specified actions to expedite the provision of broadband internet access service in unserved rural areas.

Specifically, the FCC must modify the framework for the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Phase I auction, which aims to facilitate the provision of broadband service to areas that are wholly unserved. Among other requirements, the FCC (1) must accept long-form applications prior to such auction from applicants that are willing to commit to a specified schedule for deploying broadband internet access service, and (2) shall not require applicants to be designated as eligible telecommunications carriers in order to receive Rural Digital Opportunity Fund support.

In addition, the bill establishes a deadline of October 1, 2020, for the FCC to create broadband maps that depict the extent of availability of broadband service in the United States and the areas that remain unserved.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 1, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 1, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.