

S 1885

Rural Connectivity Advancement Program Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: May 27, 2021

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text: CR S3897-3)

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text: CR S3897-3899) (May 27, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1885>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		May 27, 2021
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		May 27, 2021
Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]	R · KS		May 27, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 27, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Rural Connectivity Advancement Program Act of 2021

This bill sets aside 10% of the net proceeds from spectrum auctions to be deposited into a Rural Broadband Assessment and Deployment Fund, which shall be used for the buildout of broadband networks.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) must use the fund to establish one or more programs to address (1) gaps in broadband internet access service coverage in high-cost rural areas, and (2) insufficient funding of other programs that could adversely affect the sustainability of broadband services or comparability of rates supported by such programs. Further, the FCC must establish transparency and accountability requirements for addressing such coverage gaps and funding shortfalls, and it must report annually on the distribution of amounts from the fund.

Actions Timeline

- **May 27, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 27, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text: CR S3897-3899)