

HR 3370

Broadband Permitting Modernization Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: May 20, 2021

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. (Jul 13, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3370>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Armstrong, Kelly [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		May 20, 2021
Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1]	R · WV		May 20, 2021
Rep. Upton, Fred [R-MI-6]	R · MI		May 20, 2021
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		May 20, 2021
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		May 20, 2021
Rep. Stefanik, Elise M. [R-NY-21]	R · NY		Jun 23, 2021
Rep. Owens, Burgess [R-UT-4]	R · UT		Apr 14, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 13, 2021
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	May 21, 2021
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Jul 13, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 1525	Related bill	Apr 28, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 1047	Related bill	Mar 25, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 1156	Related bill	Mar 25, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 HR 1038	Related bill	Mar 18, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.

Broadband Permitting Modernization Act

This bill modifies, and requires reports about, permitting requirements for broadband activities on federal lands.

Specifically, the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) must report on communication use authorizations (i.e., authorizations to modify or locate communications facilities on public land administered by Interior or National Forest System land). Among other topics, the report must assess barriers to reviewing the authorizations and describe the process for prioritizing reviews.

Interior and USDA must also each establish an online portal to manage the Form 299 (used to apply for rights to install, modify, or maintain a communications facility on federal real property) approval process. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration must (1) report to Congress every 60 days on the status of the portals until they are established, and (2) publish links to each established portal on its website.

The bill also authorizes the delegation of federal environmental compliance for certain broadband projects to states and Indian tribes. Interior and USDA must establish a voluntary program whereby states or Indian tribes may conduct (subject to specified terms) environmental reviews for broadband projects within an operational right-of-way (i.e., all real property interests acquired for the construction or operation of a project) on land managed by Interior, National Forest System land, or Indian land.

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

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 13, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.
- **Jul 13, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **May 21, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **May 20, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **May 20, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Energy and Commerce, 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.