

HR 8556

Clarifying E–Rate Act of 2024

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: May 23, 2024

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. (May 31, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/8556>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30]

Party: Democratic • State: CA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		May 23, 2024
Rep. Garcia, Robert [D-CA-42]	D · CA		May 23, 2024
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		May 23, 2024
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-31]	D · CA		May 23, 2024
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		May 23, 2024
Rep. Stansbury, Melanie A. [D-NM-1]	D · NM		May 23, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	May 31, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

## Clarifying E–Rate Act of 2024

This bill provides statutory authority for the use of Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support program (E-Rate) funds for the provision of Wi-Fi access on school buses. (In a declaratory ruling titled *Modernizing the E-Rate Program for Schools and Libraries* and released on October 25, 2023, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) declared that the use of Wi-Fi and similar technologies on school buses serves an educational purpose and is therefore eligible for E-Rate funding. The policy effectively permits schools to receive discounted telecommunications service for use on school buses.)

The bill also directs the FCC to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking specifying any additional locations for which E-Rate funding may be used to support connectivity. The FCC must establish an annual process for considering additional eligible locations.

## Actions Timeline

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- **May 31, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **May 23, 2024:** Introduced in House
- **May 23, 2024:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.