

HR 2399

Rural Broadband Protection Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Mar 27, 2025

Current Status: Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Cale

Latest Action: Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Calendar No. 61. (Apr 29, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/2399>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Houchin, Erin [R-IN-9]

Party: Republican • **State:** IN • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Mar 27, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Reported By	Apr 24, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 1768	Related bill	Mar 3, 2025: Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, the Budget, the Judiciary, and Education and Workforce, 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.

Rural Broadband Protection Act of 2025

This bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish a process to vet applicants for certain funding programs that support affordable broadband deployment in high-cost areas, including rural communities.

Specifically, the FCC must conduct a rulemaking to develop a vetting process for applicants seeking funding under high-cost universal service programs for the deployment of a broadband-capable network and the provision of supported services over the network. The FCC must require applications for such funding to document each applicant's technical, financial, and operational capabilities related to the proposed deployment, as well as a reasonable business plan.

The FCC must evaluate applications against reasonable and well-established standards and must consider each applicant's history of compliance with the requirements of other government broadband funding programs. After the rulemaking is finalized, funds may only be awarded to applicants that satisfy the standards established therein.

Finally, the FCC must set financial penalties for applicants that default in some manner during the evaluation process before they are authorized to begin receiving support.

- Mar 27, 2025:** Introduced in House
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