

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1056

To authorize grants for community telecommunications infrastructure planning, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 14, 2001

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To authorize grants for community telecommunications infrastructure planning, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Community Tele-
5 communications Planning Act of 2001”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS PLANNING**
7 **GRANTS.**

8 (a) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.**—Each Secretary
9 concerned may, using amounts authorized to be appro-

1 priated by the applicable paragraph of subsection (f),
2 make grants to eligible entities described in subsection (b)
3 for the community telecommunications infrastructure
4 planning purposes described in subsection (e).

5 (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity eligible for a
6 grant under this section is any local or tribal government,
7 local non-profit entity, cooperative, public utility, or other
8 public entity that proposes to use the amount of the grant
9 for the community telecommunications infrastructure
10 planning purposes described in subsection (e).

11 (c) COMMUNITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRA-
12 STRUCTURE PLANNING.—Amounts under a grant under
13 this section shall be used for purposes of facilitating the
14 development of a telecommunications infrastructure plan
15 for a locality by various means, including—

16 (1) by encouraging the involvement in the devel-
17 opment of the plan of interested elements of the
18 community concerned, including the business com-
19 munity, governments, telecommunications providers,
20 and secondary and, where applicable, post-secondary
21 educational institutions and their students;

22 (2) by enhancing the focus of the development
23 of the plan on a wide range of telecommunications
24 needs in the community concerned, including needs

1 relating to local business, education, health care, and
2 government;

3 (3) by enhancing the identification of a wide
4 range of potential solutions for such needs through
5 advanced telecommunications infrastructure; and

6 (4) by any other means that the Secretary con-
7 cerned considers appropriate.

8 (d) GRANT PRIORITY FOR PLANNING FOR RURAL
9 AND UNDERSERVED AREAS.—In awarding grants under
10 this section, each Secretary concerned shall give a priority
11 to eligible entities that propose to use the grants for com-
12 munity telecommunications infrastructure planning for
13 rural areas or underserved areas.

14 (e) ADMINISTRATION.—Each Secretary concerned
15 shall establish such administrative requirements for grants
16 under this section, including requirements for applications
17 for such grants, as such Secretary considers appropriate.

18 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 (1) RURAL AREA.—The term “rural area”
20 means any county having a population density of
21 less than 300 people per square mile as determined
22 in the 2000 decennial census.

23 (2) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term “Sec-
24 retary concerned” means each of the following:

25 (A) The Secretary of Commerce.

1 (B) The Secretary of Agriculture.

2 (C) The Secretary of Education.

3 (3) UNDERSERVED AREA.—The term “under-
4 served area” means any census tract as determined
5 in the 2000 decennial census which is located in—

6 (A) an empowerment zone or enterprise
7 community designated under section 1391 of
8 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

9 (B) the District of Columbia Enterprise
10 Zone established under section 1400 of the In-
11 ternal Revenue Code of 1986;

12 (C) a renewal community designated under
13 section 1400E of the Internal Revenue Code of
14 1986; or

15 (D) a low-income community designated
16 under section 45D of the Internal Revenue
17 Code of 1986.

18 (g) AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 is hereby authorized to be appropriated for purposes of
20 making grants under this section the following:

21 (1) For the Department of Commerce—

22 (A) \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and

23 (B) such sums as may be necessary for fis-
24 cal years after fiscal year 2002.

25 (2) For the Department of Agriculture—

1 (A) \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and

2 (B) such sums as may be necessary for fis-

3 cal years after fiscal year 2002.

4 (3) For the Department of Education—

5 (A) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2002; and

6 (B) such sums as may be necessary for fis-

7 cal years after fiscal year 2002.

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