To amend title VI of the Social Security Act to permit the use of amounts under the Coronavirus Relief Fund for rural broadband expansion and improvement.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

September 24, 2020

Mr. BARR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

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A BILL

To amend title VI of the Social Security Act to permit the use of amounts under the Coronavirus Relief Fund for rural broadband expansion and improvement.

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 “Rural Broadband Ex-
5 pansion Act of 2020”.


SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION RELATING TO CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND EXPENDITURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 601 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) RURAL BROADBAND EXPANSION OR IMPROVEMENT.—For purposes of subsection (d) and notwithstanding paragraph (3) of such subsection, necessary expenditures described in such subsection shall include the expansion or improvement of infrastructure in rural areas (as defined in section 1026.35(b)(iv)(A) of title 12, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation)) for the provision of broadband internet access service (as defined in section 8.1(b) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation)).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to payments made to a State, Tribal government, or unit of local government under title VI of the Social Security Act before or after the date of enactment of this Act.