

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8147

To require service affordability to be considered in awarding grants under rural broadband programs administered by the Department of Agriculture.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2026

Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY (for herself and Mr. BRESNAHAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on 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

A BILL

To require service affordability to be considered in awarding grants under rural broadband programs administered by the Department of Agriculture.

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 “Prioritizing Rural
5 Broadband Affordability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AFFORDABILITY.**

7 Section 601 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936
8 (7 U.S.C. 950bb) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (c)(2), by adding at the end
2 the following:

3 “(C) AFFORDABILITY.—In determining
4 whether a household is unserved for purposes of
5 this section, the Secretary shall consider the af-
6 fordability of broadband service.”; and

7 (2) in subsection (d)(2), by striking subpara-
8 graph (C) and inserting the following:

9 “(C) AFFORDABILITY.—In determining
10 whether a proposed service territory is unserved
11 for purposes of subparagraph (A), the Secretary
12 shall consider the affordability of broadband
13 service in the service territory.”.

14 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

15 The amendments made by this Act shall take effect
16 on the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment
17 of this Act.

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