

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 428

To provide grants and other incentives to promote new communications technologies, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 1, 2001

Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DODD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

---

## A BILL

To provide grants and other incentives to promote new communications technologies, 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 “Broadband Expansion  
5       Grant Initiative of 2001”.

**6 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds the following:

8           (1) Investing in a telecommunications infra-  
9       structure for underserved rural communities will in-

1 increase the potential for long-term economic growth  
2 in those areas.

11 (4) Broadband deployment grants and loan  
12 guarantees would encourage private-sector invest-  
13 ment in infrastructure advances.

14 SEC. 3. FACILITATION OF DEPLOYMENT OF BROADBAND  
15 TELECOMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITIES TO  
16 UNDERSERVED RURAL AREAS.

17 (a) IN GENERAL.—In order to facilitate the deploy-  
18 ment by the private sector of broadband telecommuni-  
19 cations networks and capabilities (including wireless and  
20 satellite networks and capabilities) to underserved rural  
21 areas, the Secretary of Commerce (in this section, referred  
22 to as the “Secretary”) may—

4 (3) carry out activities under both paragraphs

5 (1) and (2).

6 (b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—For purposes of this  
7 section, an eligible recipient of a grant or loan guarantee  
8 under subsection (a) is any person or entity selected by  
9 the Secretary in accordance with such procedures as the  
10 Secretary shall establish.

11 (c) UNDERSERVED RURAL AREAS.—The Secretary  
12 shall identify the areas that constitute underserved rural  
13 areas for purposes of this section.

14 (d) EMPHASIS ON PARTICULAR CAPABILITIES.—In  
15 selecting a person or entity as an eligible recipient of a  
16 grant or loan guarantee under subsection (a), the Sec-  
17 retary shall give particular emphasis to persons or entities  
18 that propose to use the grant or the proceeds of the loan  
19 guaranteed, as the case may be, to leverage non-Federal  
20 resources to do one or more of the following:

21 (1) Provide underserved rural areas with access  
22 to Internet service by local telephone.

23 (2) Demonstrate new models or emerging tech-  
24 nologies to bring broadband telecommunications

1 services to underserved rural areas on a cost-effective  
2 basis.

3 (3) Use broadband telecommunications services  
4 to stimulate economic development, such as providing  
5 connections between and among industrial  
6 parks located in such areas and providing high-speed  
7 telecommunications service links to small business  
8 incubators.

9 (e) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary may consult  
10 with the Federal Communications Commission in carrying  
11 out activities under this section.

12 (f) LIMITATION ON AMOUNT.—The amount of any  
13 grants made under this section, and the cost (as defined  
14 in section 502(5) of the Federal Credit Reform Act of  
15 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661a(5)) of any loans guaranteed under  
16 this section, may not, in the aggregate, exceed  
17 \$100,000,000.

18 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
19 authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Com-  
20 merce for purposes of grants and loan guarantees under  
21 this section \$100,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and such  
22 sums as are necessary for each fiscal year thereafter.

