

108TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4699

To establish a grant program to support broadband-based economic development efforts.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 24, 2004

Mr. MCHUGH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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

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## A BILL

To establish a grant program to support broadband-based economic development efforts.

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. GRANTS FOR BROADBAND-BASED ECONOMIC**  
4 **DEVELOPMENT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Public Works and  
6 Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3141 et  
7 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 214. GRANTS FOR BROADBAND-BASED ECONOMIC DE-**  
2 **VELOPMENT.**

3 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following  
4 definitions apply:

5 “(1) ELIGIBLE APPLICANT.—The term ‘eligible  
6 applicant’ means—

7 “(A) a State or local government;

8 “(B) an institution of higher education; or

9 “(C) a nonprofit economic development or-  
10 ganization.

11 “(2) REGION.—The term ‘region’ means an  
12 area—

13 “(A) that is determined by the Secretary  
14 to qualify for grants under this section; and

15 “(B) that, on the date of submission of an  
16 application for a grant under this section, meets  
17 1 or more of the criteria described in section  
18 301(a).

19 “(b) GRANTS.—On the application of an eligible ap-  
20 plicant, the Secretary may make grants—

21 “(1) to assess the telecommunications infra-  
22 structure of a region;

23 “(2) to assess the telecommunications demand  
24 in a region; and

1           “(3) to organize programs to boost the supply  
2           of high-speed telecommunications to a region, in-  
3           cluding demand aggregation programs.

4           “(c) CRITERIA FOR GRANT.—The Secretary may  
5           make a grant under this section only if the Secretary de-  
6           termines that the project proposed to be carried out using  
7           funds from the grant will advance high-speed tele-  
8           communications in an area with a population of not more  
9           than 1,000,000 individuals, as determined by the Office  
10          of Management and Budget.

11          “(d) MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE FOR EACH REGION.—  
12          Not more than \$1,000,000 of the amounts made available  
13          to carry out this section may be expended in any 1 region.

14          “(e) COST SHARING.—

15                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the  
16                 cost of a project carried out using funds made avail-  
17                 able under this section shall be 50 percent.

18                 “(2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—Not more than  
19                 50 percent of the non-Federal share of the cost of  
20                 a project carried out using funds made available  
21                 under this section may be provided through in-kind  
22                 contributions.

23                 “(3) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN SECTION.—  
24                 Section 204 shall not apply to this section.

1       “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
2 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
3 \$50,000,000, to remain available until expended.”.

4       (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-  
5 tents contained in section 1(b) of the Public Works and  
6 Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3121  
7 note) is amended by inserting after the item relating to  
8 section 213 the following:

“Sec. 214. Grants for broadband-based economic development.”.

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