

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2577

To provide incentives to promote broadband telecommunications services in rural America, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 24, 2004

Mrs. CLINTON introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To provide incentives to promote broadband telecommunications services in rural America, 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 Rural Re-
5 search Investment Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The availability of broadband telecommuni-
9 cations services in rural America is critical to eco-

1 nomic development, job creation, and new services
 2 such as distance learning and telemedicine.

3 (2) Existing broadband technology cannot be
 4 deployed in many rural areas, either because of tech-
 5 nical limitations, or the cost of deployment relative
 6 to the available market.

7 (3) Research in new broadband technology that
 8 addresses these barriers could increase the avail-
 9 ability of broadband telecommunications services in
 10 rural areas.

11 **SEC. 3. RESEARCH ON ENHANCEMENT OF BROADBAND**
 12 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National
 14 Science Foundation (in this section, referred to as the
 15 “Director”) shall carry out research on the following:

16 (1) Means of enhancing or facilitating the avail-
 17 ability of broadband telecommunications services in
 18 rural areas and other remote areas.

19 (2) Means of facilitating or enhancing access to
 20 the Internet through broadband telecommunications
 21 services.

22 (b) SCOPE OF AUTHORITY.—The Director may carry
 23 out research under subsection (a) within the National
 24 Science Foundation or pursuant to such grants, agree-

1 ments, or other arrangements as the Director considers
2 appropriate.

3 (c) RESULTS OF RESEARCH.—The Director shall
4 make available to the public, in such manner as the Direc-
5 tor considers appropriate, the results of any research car-
6 ried out under this section.

7 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
8 authorized to be appropriated for the National Science
9 Foundation for purposes of activities under this section
10 \$25,000,000 for fiscal year 2005, and such sums as are
11 necessary for each fiscal year thereafter.

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