

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3439

To amend title 40, United States Code, to direct the Administrator of General Services to install Wi-Fi hotspots and wireless neutral host systems in all Federal buildings in order to improve in-building wireless communications coverage and commercial network capacity by offloading wireless traffic onto wireline broadband networks.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 25, 2012

Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. WARNER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend title 40, United States Code, to direct the Administrator of General Services to install Wi-Fi hotspots and wireless neutral host systems in all Federal buildings in order to improve in-building wireless communications coverage and commercial network capacity by offloading wireless traffic onto wireline broadband networks.

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 “Federal Wi-Net Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INSTALLATION OF FEMTOCELLS IN ALL FEDERAL**
 2 **BUILDINGS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter V of chapter 5 of sub-
 4 title I of title 40, United States Code, is amended by add-
 5 ing at the end the following:

6 **“§ 594. Installation of femtocells in all Federal build-**
 7 **ings**

8 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Adminis-
 10 trator’ means the Administrator of General Services.

11 “(2) WI-FI HOTSPOT.—The term ‘Wi-Fi
 12 hotspot’ means a site or area in which the public can
 13 access the Internet via a wireless connection.

14 “(3) WIRELESS NEUTRAL HOST SYSTEM.—The
 15 term ‘wireless neutral host system’ means a small
 16 cellular communications base station and related an-
 17 tenna, such as a femtocell, picocell, or similar device
 18 or apparatus, that is connected to a broadband serv-
 19 ice to provide—

20 “(A) improved cellular coverage within a
 21 building; and

22 “(B) increased network capacity.

23 “(b) INSTALLATION OF FEMTOCELLS.—The Admin-
 24 istrator shall—

1 “(1) install Wi-Fi hotspots in all publicly acces-
 2 sible Federal buildings constructed after the date of
 3 enactment of this section;

4 “(2) allow for the installation of wireless neu-
 5 tral host systems by any eligible carriers upon re-
 6 quest in all publicly accessible Federal buildings; and

7 “(3) in a manner consistent with sound man-
 8 agement principles, retrofit all Federal buildings
 9 constructed prior to the date of enactment of this
 10 section on a timetable that reflects the importance
 11 of wireless communication to the Federal functions
 12 being performed by the occupants of those buildings,
 13 except that all of those buildings shall be retrofitted
 14 not later than December 31, 2015.

15 “(c) FUNDING.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be made avail-
 17 able from the Federal Buildings Fund established
 18 under section 592 \$15,000,000 to carry out this sec-
 19 tion.

20 “(2) DERIVATION; AVAILABILITY.—Amounts
 21 made available under paragraph (1) shall—

22 “(A) be derived from the unobligated bal-
 23 ance of amounts made available from the Fed-
 24 eral Buildings Fund for fiscal year 2013, and
 25 prior fiscal years, for repairs and alterations

1 and other activities (excluding amounts made
2 available for the energy program); and

3 “(B) remain available until expended.”.

4 (b) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for
5 chapter 5 of subtitle I of title 40, United States Code,
6 is amended by adding at the end of the items relating to
7 subchapter V the following:

“594. Installation of femtocells in all Federal buildings.”.

