

Union Calendar No. 441

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5419

[Report No. 119–516, Part I]

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a plan for ensuring timely review of communications use authorizations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025

Mr. KEAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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

FEBRUARY 24, 2026

Reported from the Committee on Natural Resources with amendments

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

FEBRUARY 24, 2026

Committee on Agriculture discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on Septemeber 17, 2025]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a plan for ensuring timely review of communications use authorizations, 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 “Enhancing Administra-*
 5 *tive Reviews for Broadband Deployment Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. ENSURING TIMELY REVIEW OF BROADBAND LAND**
 7 **USE AUTHORIZATIONS.**

8 *(a) STUDY AND REPORT.—*

9 *(1) STUDY.—The Secretaries concerned shall*
 10 *each conduct, with respect to the relevant covered de-*
 11 *partment, a study to determine—*

12 *(A) if there are programmatic or adminis-*
 13 *trative barriers to the timely review of requests*
 14 *for broadband land use authorizations;*

15 *(B) if there are revisions to rules or regula-*
 16 *tions that could be implemented to improve effi-*
 17 *ciency with respect to reviewing requests for*
 18 *broadband land use authorizations; and*

19 *(C) if there are processes for prioritizing the*
 20 *review of requests for broadband land use au-*
 21 *thorizations.*

22 *(2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the*
 23 *date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretaries con-*
 24 *cerned shall jointly submit to the appropriate con-*
 25 *gressional committees a report that—*

1 (A) describes the results of the studies con-
 2 ducted under paragraph (1), including any bar-
 3 riers, revisions, or processes identified under sub-
 4 paragraphs (A) through (C) of such paragraph;
 5 and

6 (B) includes a plan for providing, with re-
 7 spect to the organizational units of the relevant
 8 covered departments, the staffing necessary to en-
 9 sure timely review of broadband land use author-
 10 izations.

11 (b) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this section:*

12 (1) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-*
 13 *TEES.*—*The term “appropriate congressional commit-*
 14 *tees” means the—*

15 (A) *Committees on Natural Resources, Agri-*
 16 *culture, and Energy and Commerce of the House*
 17 *of Representatives; and*

18 (B) *Committees on Commerce, Science, and*
 19 *Transportation and Environment and Public*
 20 *Works of the Senate.*

21 (2) *BROADBAND LAND USE AUTHORIZATION.*—
 22 *The term “broadband land use authorization” means*
 23 *an easement, right-of-way, lease, license, or other au-*
 24 *thorization—*

1 (A) *provided by the Secretary of the Inte-*
2 *rior or the Secretary of Agriculture;*

3 (B) *to locate or modify a communications*
4 *facility on covered land; and*

5 (C) *for the primary purpose of authorizing*
6 *the occupancy and use of such covered land for*
7 *communications use.*

8 (3) *COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.—The term*
9 *“communications facility” has the meaning given the*
10 *term “communications facility installation” in sec-*
11 *tion 6409(d) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job*
12 *Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1455(d)).*

13 (4) *COMMUNICATIONS USE.—The term “commu-*
14 *nications use” means the placement and operation of*
15 *a communications facility.*

16 (5) *COVERED LAND.—The term “covered land”*
17 *means—*

18 (A) *public lands; and*

19 (B) *National Forest System land.*

20 (6) *NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—The term “Na-*
21 *tional Forest System” has the meaning given that*
22 *term in section 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland*
23 *Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16*
24 *U.S.C. 1609(a)).*

(7) *ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT.*—*The term “organizational unit” means—*

(A) with respect to the Department of the Interior—

(i) a State office of the Bureau of Land Management;

(ii) a district office of the Bureau of Land Management; or

(iii) a field office of the Bureau of Land Management; and

(B) with respect to the Department of Agriculture—

(i) a regional office of the Forest Service;

(ii) a management unit of the Forest Service; or

(iii) a ranger district office of the Forest Service.

(8) *PUBLIC LANDS.*—*The term “public lands” has the meaning given that term in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702).*

(9) *RELEVANT COVERED DEPARTMENT.*—*The term “relevant covered department” means—*

1 (A) *with respect to the Secretary of the Inte-*
 2 *rior, the Department of the Interior; and*

3 (B) *with respect to the Secretary of Agri-*
 4 *culture, the Department of Agriculture.*

5 (10) *SECRETARIES CONCERNED.—The term*
 6 *“Secretaries concerned” means—*

7 (A) *the Secretary of the Interior; and*

8 (B) *the Secretary of Agriculture, acting*
 9 *through the Chief of the Forest Service.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a plan for ensuring timely review of broadband land use authorizations, and for other purposes.”.

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