

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2610

To terminate the Community Connect Grant program of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 2025

Ms. ERNST introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To terminate the Community Connect Grant program of the Department of Agriculture, 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 “Streamlining Rural
5 Broadband Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPEAL OF COMMUNITY CONNECT GRANT PRO-**
7 **GRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 604 of the Rural Elec-
9 trification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 950bb–3) is repealed.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

1 (1) OFFICE OF INTERNET CONNECTIVITY AND
 2 GROWTH.—Section 903(g)(4)(B) of division FF of
 3 the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (47
 4 U.S.C. 1307(g)(4)(B)), is amended by striking “the
 5 Community Connect Grant Program established
 6 under section 604 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 950bb–3),”.

7 (2) GRANTS FOR BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY.—
 8 Section 905(d)(3)(D)(ii)(I) of division N of the Con-
 9 solidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (47 U.S.C.
 10 1705(d)(3)(D)(ii)(I)), is amended—

11 (A) in item (aa), by striking “; and” and
 12 inserting “; or”;

13 (B) by striking item (bb); and

14 (C) by striking “including—” in the mat-
 15 ter preceding item (aa) and all that follows
 16 through “any program” in item (aa) and insert-
 17 ing “including any program”.

18 **SEC. 3. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**

19 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there
 20 shall be available to the Secretary of Agriculture to carry
 21 out the broadband loan and grant pilot program known
 22 as the “ReConnect Program” authorized under section
 23 779 of division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act,
 24 2018 (Public Law 115–141; 132 Stat. 399), without fur-
 25 ther appropriation, the unobligated balances of amounts

1 available on the date of enactment of this Act to carry
2 out the Community Connect Grant program under section
3 604 of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C.
4 950bb–3) (as in effect on the day before the date of enact-
5 ment of this Act).

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