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CRS Report for Congress: Broadband Internet Access and the Digital Divide: Federal Assistance Programs: September 23, 2010 - RL30719

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BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 30 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in. The digital divide is a term that has been used to characterize a gap between information haves and have-nots, or in other words, between those Americans who use or have access to telecommunications and information technologies and those who do not. One important subset of the digital divide debate concerns high-speed Internet access and advanced telecommunications services, also known as broadband. Broadband is provided by a series of technologies (e. g. , cable, telephone wire, fiber, satellite, wireless) that give users the ability to send and receive data at volumes and speeds far greater than traditional dial-up Internet access over telephone lines. Broadband technologies are currently being deployed primarily by the private sector throughout the United States. While the numbers of new broadband subscribers continue to grow, studies and data suggest that the rate of broadband deployment in urban/suburban and high income areas are outpacing deployment in rural and low-income areas. Some policymakers, believing that disparities in broadband access across American society could have adverse economic and social consequences on those left behind, assert that the federal government should play a...



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