

139TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 13

To expand the E-Rate program for internet connections in tribal schools and libraries, and school buses

IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 1ST, 2021

Mr. LIGHTWOOD (for himself, Mr. MILLER of Georgia, Mr. TOBY) introduced the following bill;

A BILL

To expand the E-Rate program for internet connections in tribal schools and libraries, and school buses

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “E-Rate Expansion Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

- (a) COMMISSION.— The term “Commission” refers to the Federal Communications Commission.

SEC. 3. E-RATE EXPANSION.

- (a) DEFINITIONS.— In this section:

- (1) **SCHOOL BUS.**— The term “school bus” means a passenger vehicle that is designed to transport and carry a driver with a minimum of 5 passengers and used to transport child education, elementary, or secondary school students to or from school or a school-related event.
- (2) **WI-FI.**— The term “WI-FI” means a wireless networking protocol based on the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Standards 802.11 (or any other successor standard).
- (3) **TRIBAL LAND.**— The term “Tribal land” means an area of land legally designated managed by a federally recognized Native American tribe under the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- (b) **RULEMAKING.**— Notwithstanding the restrictions under paragraphs (1)(b) and (2)(a) of Section 254(h) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) regarding the authorized recipients and uses of discounted telecommunications services, not later than 200 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall commence a rulemaking to make the provision of WI-FI access on school buses which includes schools and libraries within tribal lands eligible for support under the E-rate program set forth under subpart F of part 54 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 4. ENACTMENT.

EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall come into effect immediately upon passage.
