

140TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2

To amend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 to allow counties to utilize funds to provide and expand broadband, and for other purposes

IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 17TH, 2021

Mr. LIGHTWOOD (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON-KOAY) introduced the following bill;

A BILL

To amend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 to allow counties to utilize funds to provide and expand broadband, and for other purposes

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Broadband Expansion to Rural and Tribal Communities Act”.

SEC. 2. RURAL BROADBAND AND TECHNOLOGY EXPANSION.

(a) Section 302(a) of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 is amended by—

- (1) in paragraph (3) by striking “and” at the end;
- (2) in paragraph (4) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and
- (3) by adding the following at the end:

“(5) to provide and or expand access to—

“(A) broadband telecommunications services at schools; or

“(B) the technology and connectivity resources for students to use a digital learning tool or a local school campus.

SEC. 3. 2.5 GHZ TRIBAL PRIORITY WINDOW.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) COMMISSION.— In this section the term “Commission” means or refers to the Federal Communications Commission.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF PRIORITY WINDOW.—

(1) TRIBAL PRIORITY WINDOW.— Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall establish a new Tribal priority window for the 2.5 gigahertz band, under the same terms and conditions established under the Report and Order dated July 10th, 2019 (FCC 19-62), for any portions of the band—

(A) that remain available for assignment in accordance with that Report and Order; and

(B) for which the Commission did not receive an application during the Tribal priority window established in that Report and Order; and

(2) accept applications in the new window established under subsection (b)(1) during the period that begins on the date on which the window was established and ends at a later date as the Commission considers appropriate.

(c) EXEMPTIONS.— All laws and provisions in conflict with subsection (b)(1) and (b)(2) shall not be applied and declared null that prevents the Commission from establishing the priority window.

SEC. 4. ENACTMENT.

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