

117th Legislative Tracker

Last Updated: September 1, 2022

Bills by Issue

Broadband / Telecommunications / Cybersecurity Bills (8)

Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
HR 1631	Sponsor Introductory Remarks On Measure	In House	Support

Title
Community Broadband Act of 2021

Description
Community Broadband Act of 2021 This bill prohibits states from blocking the provision of broadband by public providers, public-private partnership providers, or cooperatively organized providers. Further, public providers and state or local entities participating in a partnership must administer applicable ordinances and rules without discrimination against competing private providers.

Primary Sponsors
Anna Eshoo

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1631/cosponsors?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+1631%22%2C%22HR%22%2C%221631%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=3>

Press Release: <https://eshoo.house.gov/media/press-releases/eshoo-golden-booker-introduce-bill-expand-internet-access-and-protect-local>

Bill Summary: The Community Broadband Act would empower local communities to ensure their residents have broadband access by removing roadblocks for public-private partnerships and locally-owned broadband systems.

Introduction Date: 2021-03-08

Bill Number

S 1460

Last Action

Read Twice And Referred To The Committee
On Commerce Science And Transportation

Status

In Senate

Position

Support

Title

Community Broadband Act of 2021

Description

Community Broadband Act of 2021 This bill prohibits states from blocking the provision of broadband by public providers, public-private partnership providers, or cooperatively organized providers. Further, public providers and state or local entities participating in a partnership must administer applicable ordinances and rules without discrimination against competing private providers.

Primary Sponsors

Cory Booker

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1460/cosponsors>

Press Release: <https://eshoo.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-eshoo-golden-and-senator-booker-gain-widespread-support-45-groups-bill>

Bill Summary: This bill prohibits states from blocking the provision of broadband by public providers, public-private partnership providers, or cooperatively organized providers. Further, public providers and state or local entities participating in a partnership must administer applicable ordinances and rules without discrimination against competing private providers.

Introduction Date: 2021-04-29

Bill Number

S 1695

Last Action

Read Twice And Referred To The Committee
On Environment And Public Works

Status

In Senate

Position

Support

Title

Eliminating Barriers to Rural Internet Development Grant Eligibility Act

Description

Eliminating Barriers to Rural Internet Development Grant Eligibility Act or the E-BRIDGE Act This bill authorizes the Department of Commerce to award economic development grants for public-private partnerships and certain consortiums to carry out specified broadband projects. Such projects shall be to provide, extend, expand, or improve high-speed broadband service through (1) planning, technical assistance, or training; (2) land acquisition or development; or (3) acquisition, construction, or improvement of facilities. Title to real or personal property acquired or improved with grant funds, or another acceptable possessory interest, must be vested in a public partner or eligible nonprofit organization or association for the useful life of the project. In addition, grant funds may be combined with amounts made available under any other federal program, and Commerce may provide credit toward the nonfederal share of a broadband project's cost.

Primary Sponsors

Shelley Capito

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1695/cosponsors>

Press Release: <https://www.capito.senate.gov/news/press-releases/capito-cardin-graham-manchin-reintroduce-bill-to-cut-red-tape-for-broadband-infrastructure-in-rural-communities>

Bill Summary: The Eliminating Barriers to Rural Internet Development Grant Eligibility (E-BRIDGE) Act would remove obstacles for broadband projects to receive Economic Development Administration (EDA) grants. The bill would help ensure local communities can partner with the private sector to implement critical broadband projects.

Introduction Date: 2021-05-19

Bill Number

HR 3193

Last Action

Received In The Senate And Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Environment And Public Works

Status

In Senate

Position

Support

Title

E-BRIDGE Act

Description

Eliminating Barriers to Rural Internet Development Grant Eligibility Act or the E-BRIDGE Act This bill authorizes the Department of Commerce to award economic development grants for public-private partnerships and certain consortiums to carry out specified broadband projects. Such projects shall be to provide, extend, expand, or improve high-speed broadband service through (1) planning, technical assistance, or training; (2) land acquisition or development; or (3) acquisition, construction, or improvement of facilities. When reviewing grant applications, Commerce must take into account the geographic diversity of grant allocation, including consideration of underserved markets. Title to real or personal property acquired or improved with grant funds, or another acceptable possessory interest, must be vested in a public partner or eligible nonprofit organization or association for the useful life of the project. In addition, grant funds may be combined with amounts made available under any other federal program, and Commerce may provide credit toward the nonfederal share of a broadband project's cost.

Primary Sponsors

Sam Graves

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3193/cosponsors?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+3193%22%2C%22HR%22%2C%223193%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=1>

Press Release: https://graves.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/graves-introduces-bill-spur-high-speed-broadband-projects-rural-0?utm_source=sendgrid&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Newsletters

Bill Summary: The Eliminating Barriers to Rural Internet Development Grant Eligibility (E-BRIDGE) Act would remove hurdles for broadband projects under EDA grants, including difficult last-mile efforts that often delay rural broadband deployment. It would also ensure that local communities can partner with the private sector in carrying out broadband projects and gives communities more flexibility in complying with their funding match requirements.

Introduction Date: 2021-05-13

Bill Number

HR 5960

Last Action

Referred To The Subcommittee On
Cybersecurity Infrastructure Protection And
Innovation

Status

Enacted

Position

Support

Title

State and Local Government Cybersecurity Act of 2021

Description

State and Local Government Cybersecurity Act of 2021 This bill provides for collaboration between the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as corporations, associations, and the general public, regarding cybersecurity. The bill expands DHS responsibilities through grants and cooperative agreements, including provision of assistance and education related to cyber threat indicators, defensive measures, cybersecurity risks or vulnerabilities, and incident response and management. The bill requires the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center, upon request, to coordinate with entities such as the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center to engage in specified activities, including to (1) conduct exercises with state, local, tribal, or territorial government entities; (2) provide operational and technical cybersecurity training to such entities; and (3) promote cybersecurity education and awareness.

Primary Sponsors

Joe Neguse

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5960/cosponsors?r=35&s=1>

Press Release: <https://neguse.house.gov/media/press-releases/neguse-introduces-bicameral-cybersecurity-initiatives-to-secure-supply-chains-and-equip-state-and-local-governments>

Bill Summary: The State and Local Government Cybersecurity Act would encourage national cybersecurity watchdogs to share information regarding cybersecurity threats, vulnerabilities, and breaches as well as resources to prevent and recover from cyber-attacks with states and localities that are increasingly targeted by bad actors.

Introduction Date: 2021-11-12

Bill Number

S 2520

Last Action

Became Public Law No 117-150

Status

Enacted

Position

Support

Title

State and Local Government Cybersecurity Act of 2021

Description

State and Local Government Cybersecurity Act of 2021 This bill provides for collaboration between the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as corporations, associations, and the general public, regarding cybersecurity. The bill expands DHS responsibilities through grants and cooperative agreements, including provision of assistance and education related to cyber threat indicators, proactive and defensive measures and cybersecurity technologies, cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities, incident response and management, analysis, and warnings. The bill requires the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center, upon request, to coordinate with entities such as the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center to engage in specified activities, including to (1) conduct exercises with state, local, tribal, or territorial government entities; (2) provide operational and technical cybersecurity training to such entities; and (3) promote cybersecurity education and awareness.

Primary Sponsors

Gary Peters

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2520/cosponsors>

Bill Summary: The State and Local Government Cybersecurity Act would encourage national cybersecurity watchdogs to share information regarding cybersecurity threats, vulnerabilities, and breaches as well as resources to prevent and recover from cyber-attacks with states and localities that are increasingly targeted by bad actors.

Introduction Date: 2021-07-28

Bill Number

HR 6219

Last Action

Referred To The Subcommittee On
Communications And Technology

Status

In House

Position

Support

Title

Protecting Community Television Act

Description

Protecting Community Television Act This bill revises the definition of a franchise fee that is paid by a cable operator or cable subscriber to encompass only a tax, fee, or other monetary assessment that is imposed by a franchising authority or other governmental entity.

Primary Sponsors

Anna Eshoo

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6219/cosponsors>

Press Release: <https://www.markey.senate.gov/news/press-releases/senators-markey-baldwin-and-reps-eshoo-defazio-reintroduce-legislation-to-protect-community-television>

Bill Summary: The Protecting Community Television Act clarifies that the franchise fees that cable companies provide local governments only include monetary assessments, not in-kind contributions.

Introduction Date: 2021-12-09

Bill Number

S 3361

Last Action

Read Twice And Referred To The Committee
On Commerce Science And Transportation

Status

In Senate

Position

Support

Title

Protecting Community Television Act

Description

Protecting Community Television Act This bill revises the definition of a franchise fee that is paid by a cable operator or cable subscriber to encompass only a tax, fee, or other monetary assessment that is imposed by a franchising authority or other governmental entity.

Primary Sponsors

Ed Markey

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6219/cosponsors>

Press Release: <https://www.markey.senate.gov/news/press-releases/senator-markey-and-rep-eshoo-introduce-legislation-to-protect-community-television>

Bill Summary:The Protecting Community Television Act clarifies that the franchise fees that cable companies provide local governments only include monetary assessments, not in-kind contributions.

Introduction Date: 2021-12-09

Bills Related to Local Volunteers (3)

Bill Number

HR 4377

Last Action

Referred To The House Committee On
Financial Services

Status

In House

Position

Support

Title

Volunteer First Responder Housing Act

Description

Volunteer First Responder Housing Act This bill expands eligibility to qualified volunteer first responders for assistance under (1) the Department of Agriculture Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program, and (2) certain Department of Housing and Urban Development single-family property disposition programs.

Primary Sponsors

Cindy Axne

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4377/cosponsors>

Press Release: <https://axne.house.gov/media/press-releases/rep-axne-sen-baldwin-announce-bipartisan-legislation-expand-affordable-housing>

Bill Summary: This bill expands eligibility to qualified volunteer first responders for assistance under (1) the Department of Agriculture Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program, and (2) certain Department of Housing and Urban Development single-family property disposition programs.

Introduction Date: 2021-07-09

Bill Number

S 2316

Last Action

Read Twice And Referred To The Committee
On Banking Housing And Urban Affairs

Status

In Senate

Position

Support

Title

Volunteer First Responder Housing Act

Description

Volunteer First Responder Housing Act This bill expands eligibility to qualified volunteer first responders for assistance under (1) the Department of Agriculture Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program, and (2) certain Department of Housing and Urban Development single-family property disposition programs.

Bill Summary: This bill expands eligibility to qualified volunteer first responders for assistance under (1) the Department of Agriculture Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program, and (2) certain Department of Housing and Urban Development single-family property disposition programs.

Introduction Date: 2021-07-12

Primary Sponsors

Tammy Baldwin

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2316/cosponsors?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22S+2316%22%2C%22S%22%2C%22316%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=5>

Press Release: <https://www.baldwin.senate.gov/news/press-releases/volunteer-first-responder-housing-act-2021>

Bill Number

HR 7432

Last Action

Referred To The House Committee On Ways
And Means

Status

In House

Position

Support

Title

Volunteer Driver Tax Appreciation Act of 2022

Description

Volunteer Driver Tax Appreciation Act of 2022 This bill increases the mileage rate for the charitable use of an automobile (14 cents per mile) to the standard business mileage rate (58.5 cents per mile in 2022).

Bill Summary: This bill increases the mileage rate for the charitable use of an automobile (14 cents per mile) to the standard business mileage rate (58.5 cents per mile in 2022).

Introduction Date: 2022-04-06

Primary Sponsors

Pete Stauber

Organizational Notes

Cosponsors: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/7432/cosponsors?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+7432%22%2C%22HR%22%2C%227432%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=4>

Transportation Bills (2)

Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
HR 6787	Referred To The House Committee On Ways And Means	In House	Oppose
Title Gas Prices Relief Act of 2022		Bill Summary: The bill would help lower gas costs by temporarily suspending the 18.4 cent federal gas tax until January 1, 2023.	
Description Gas Prices Relief Act of 2022 This bill provides for a temporary exemption through 2022 from the excise tax on gasoline (other than aviation gasoline) and from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund financing rate. The Department of the Treasury must transfer from the general fund to the Highway Trust Fund and the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund amounts resulting from the exemption provided by this bill. The bill also expresses congressional policy that consumers immediately receive the benefit of this exemption.		Introduction Date: 2022-02-18	
Primary Sponsors Tom O'Halleran			
Organizational Notes Cosponsors: https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6787/cosponsors?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+6787%22%2C%22HR%22%2C%226787%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=8			

Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
S 3609	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Finance	In Senate	Oppose
Title Gas Prices Relief Act of 2022		Bill Summary: The bill would help lower gas costs by temporarily suspending the 18.4 cent federal gas tax until January 1, 2023.	
Description Gas Prices Relief Act of 2022 This bill provides for a temporary exemption through 2022 from the excise tax on gasoline (other than aviation gasoline) and from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund financing rate. The Department of the Treasury must transfer from the general fund to the Highway Trust Fund and the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund amounts resulting from the exemption provided by this bill. The bill also expresses congressional policy that consumers immediately receive the benefit of this exemption.		Introduction Date: 2022-02-09	
Primary Sponsors Mark Kelly			
Organizational Notes Cosponsors: https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/3609/cosponsors			

Tax Bills (2)

Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
HR 2288	Referred To The House Committee On Ways And Means	In House	Support
Title Investing in Our Communities Act			
Description Investing in Our Communities Act This bill reinstates the exclusion from gross income for interest on certain bonds issued to advance the refunding of a prior bond issue. The exclusion was repealed for bonds issued after 2017.		Bill Summary: This bill reinstates the exclusion from gross income for interest on certain bonds issued to advance the refunding of a prior bond issue. The exclusion was repealed for bonds issued after 2017.	
Primary Sponsors Dutch Ruppersberger		Introduction Date: 2021-03-29	
Organizational Notes Cosponsors: https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2288/cosponsors?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22HR+2288%22%2C%22HR%22%2C%222288%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=6			

Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position
S 479	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Finance	In Senate	Support
Title LOCAL Infrastructure Act			
Description Lifting Our Communities through Advance Liquidity for Infrastructure Act or the LOCAL Infrastructure Act This bill reinstates tax provisions relating to advance refunding bonds. An advance refunding bond is a tax-exempt bond issued by a state or municipality to refinance or consolidate existing bond obligations.		Bill Summary: This bill reinstates tax provisions relating to advance refunding bonds. An advance refunding bond is a tax-exempt bond issued by a state or municipality to refinance or consolidate existing bond obligations.	
Primary Sponsors Roger Wicker		Introduction Date: 2021-02-25	
Organizational Notes Cosponsors: https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/479/cosponsors?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22479%22%2C%22479%22%5D%7D&r=2&s=7			