

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3343

To require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the Assistant Secretary to track the acceptance, processing, and disposal of certain Form 299s, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2023

Mr. PFLUGER (for himself and Mr. SOTO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the Assistant Secretary to track the acceptance, processing, and disposal of certain Form 299s, 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 “Federal Broadband
5 Deployment Tracking Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PLAN FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO TRACK THE**
2 **ACCEPTANCE, PROCESSING, AND DISPOSAL**
3 **OF CERTAIN FORM 299S.**

4 (a) PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall
6 submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan
7 containing a description of—

8 (1) the process by which the Assistant Sec-
9 retary proposes to—

10 (A) track the acceptance, processing, and
11 disposal of each Form 299 for communications
12 use authorization;

13 (B) provide applicants additional trans-
14 parency with respect to the status of the appli-
15 cable Form 299 for communications use au-
16 thorization; and

17 (C) most expeditiously implement the plan;
18 and

19 (2) any potential barriers to implementing the
20 plan that are identified by the Assistant Secretary.

21 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
23 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
24 mittees” means—

25 (A) the Committee on Energy and Com-
26 merce of the House of Representatives; and

1 (B) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
2 and Transportation of the Senate.

3 (2) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term “Assist-
4 ant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary of
5 Commerce for Communications and Information.

6 (3) COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.—The term
7 “communications facility” has the meaning given the
8 term communications facility installation in section
9 6409(d) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job
10 Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1455(d)).

11 (4) COMMUNICATIONS USE.—The term “com-
12 munications use” means the placement and oper-
13 ation of a communications facility.

14 (5) COMMUNICATIONS USE AUTHORIZATION.—
15 The term “communications use authorization”
16 means an easement, right-of-way, lease, license, or
17 other authorization—

18 (A) provided by the Secretary of the Inte-
19 rior or the Secretary of Agriculture;

20 (B) to locate or modify a communications
21 facility on covered land; and

22 (C) for the primary purpose of authorizing
23 the occupancy and use of such covered land for
24 communications use.

1 (6) COVERED LAND.—The term “covered land”
2 means—

3 (A) public lands; and

4 (B) National Forest System land.

5 (7) FORM 299.—The term “Form 299” means
6 the form established under section 6409(b)(2)(A) of
7 the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act
8 of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1455(b)(2)(A)), or any successor
9 form.

10 (8) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—The term
11 “National Forest System” has the meaning given
12 the term in section 11(a) of the Forest and Range-
13 land Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16
14 U.S.C. 1609(a)).

15 (9) PUBLIC LANDS.—The term “public lands”
16 means land under the management of—

17 (A) the Bureau of Land Management;

18 (B) the National Park Service;

19 (C) the United States Fish and Wildlife
20 Service; or

21 (D) the Bureau of Reclamation.

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