

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7839

To amend the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018 to prioritize support to projects under that Act that increase digital infrastructure and connectivity.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 29, 2024

Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself and Ms. DELBENE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018 to prioritize support to projects under that Act that increase digital infrastructure and connectivity.

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 “Prioritizing Digital In-  
5 frastructure Financing Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PRIORITIZING DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND**  
2 **CONNECTIVITY.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1451 of the Better Utili-  
4 zation of Investments Leading to Development Act of  
5 2018 (22 U.S.C. 9613) is amended by inserting after sub-  
6 section (i) the following:

7 “(j) PRIORITIZING DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND  
8 CONNECTIVITY.—The Corporation should prioritize sup-  
9 port to projects that—

10 “(1) increase digital infrastructure and  
11 connectivity, including operators of voice and data  
12 networks, development options for countries with the  
13 greatest need for digital infrastructure investment  
14 and in cases in which competing digital infrastruc-  
15 ture financing proposals lack high standards for  
16 data security and protection of users’ human rights;  
17 and

18 “(2) align with the Corporation’s authorities re-  
19 lating to provisions of support as outlined in section  
20 1421(a).”.

21 (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
22 of the enactment of this Act, the United States Inter-  
23 national Development Financing Corporation shall submit  
24 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-  
25 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of

1 the Senate a report that includes an identification and de-  
2 scription of—

3           (1) regions and countries with the greatest need  
4           for investment in digital infrastructure, including  
5           the types of such digital infrastructure;

6           (2) regions and countries in which investment  
7           in digital infrastructure will be most effective in pro-  
8           moting high standards for data security and protec-  
9           tion of users' human rights; and

10          (3) efforts of partner governments to provide  
11          digital infrastructure development financing initia-  
12          tives and efforts of the Corporation to coordinate  
13          with such partner governments with respect to such  
14          digital infrastructure development financing.

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