

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S. 1289**

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**AN ACT**

To require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct an assessment and analysis of the effects of broadband deployment and adoption on the economy of the United States, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Measuring the Eco-  
3 nomic Impact of Broadband Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS REGARDING THE EF-**  
5 **FECT OF THE DIGITAL ECONOMY ON THE**  
6 **ECONOMY OF THE UNITED STATES.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8       (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
9 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
10 gress” means—

11           (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
12 and Transportation of the Senate;

13           (B) the Committee on Environment and  
14 Public Works of the Senate;

15           (C) the Committee on Small Business and  
16 Entrepreneurship of the Senate;

17           (D) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
18 merce of the House of Representatives;

19           (E) the Committee on Transportation and  
20 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;  
21 and

22           (F) the Committee on Small Business of  
23 the House of Representatives.

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

1           (3) BROADBAND.—The term “broadband”  
2 means an Internet Protocol-based transmission serv-  
3 ice that enables users to send and receive voice,  
4 video, data, or graphics, or a combination of those  
5 items.

6           (4) DIGITAL ECONOMY.—

7                 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
8 graph (B), the term “digital economy” has the  
9 meaning given the term by the Secretary in car-  
10 rying out this section.

11                (B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing a  
12 definition for the term “digital economy” under  
13 subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall con-  
14 sider—

15                         (i) the digital-enabling infrastructure  
16 that a computer network needs to exist  
17 and operate; and

18                         (ii) the roles of e-commerce and dig-  
19 ital media.

20           (5) DIGITAL MEDIA.—The term “digital media”  
21 means the content that participants in e-commerce  
22 create and access.

23           (6) E-COMMERCE.—The term “e-commerce”  
24 means the digital transactions that take place using  
25 the infrastructure described in paragraph (4)(B)(i).

1           (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
2       the Secretary of Commerce.

3       (b) BIENNIAL ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS RE-  
4       QUIRED.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enact-  
5       ment of this Act, and biennially thereafter, the Secretary,  
6       in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Eco-  
7       nomic Analysis of the Department of Commerce and the  
8       Assistant Secretary, shall conduct an assessment and  
9       analysis regarding the contribution of the digital economy  
10      to the economy of the United States.

11      (c) CONSIDERATIONS AND CONSULTATION.—In con-  
12      ducting each assessment and analysis required under sub-  
13      section (b), the Secretary shall—

14           (1) consider the impact of—

15               (A) the deployment and adoption of—

16                   (i) digital-enabling infrastructure; and

17                   (ii) broadband;

18               (B) e-commerce and platform-enabled  
19      peer-to-peer commerce; and

20               (C) the production and consumption of  
21      digital media, including free media; and

22           (2) consult with—

23               (A) the heads of any agencies and offices  
24      of the Federal Government as the Secretary  
25      considers appropriate, including the Secretary

1 of Agriculture, the Commissioner of the Bureau  
2 of Labor Statistics, the Administrator of the  
3 Small Business Administration, and the Federal  
4 Communications Commission;

5 (B) representatives of the business commu-  
6 nity, including rural and urban internet service  
7 providers and telecommunications infrastruc-  
8 ture providers;

9 (C) representatives from State, local, and  
10 tribal government agencies; and

11 (D) representatives from consumer and  
12 community organizations.

13 (d) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the ap-  
14 propriate committees of Congress a report regarding the  
15 findings of the Secretary with respect to each assessment  
16 and analysis conducted under subsection (b).

Passed the Senate June 5, 2019.

Attest:

*Secretary.*

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