

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 645

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.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 15, 2017

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. SULLIVAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Measuring the Eco-
5 nomic Impact of Broadband Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECT OF**
2 **BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT ON ECONOMY OF**
3 **THE UNITED STATES.**

4 (a) BROADBAND DEFINED.—In this section, the term
5 “broadband” means an Internet Protocol-based trans-
6 mission service that enables users to send and receive
7 voice, video, data, or graphics, or a combination of those
8 items.

9 (b) ASSESSMENT AND ANALYSIS REQUIRED.—The
10 Secretary of Commerce shall, acting through the Director
11 of the Bureau of Economic Analysis, conduct an assess-
12 ment and analysis of the effects of broadband deployment
13 and adoption on the economy of the United States.

14 (c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In conducting the assessment
15 and analysis required by subsection (b), the Secretary
16 shall consider matters relating to employment, including
17 job creation, business headcount, online commerce, in-
18 come, education and distance learning, telehealth,
19 telework, agriculture, population growth, population den-
20 sity, broadband speed, and geography.

21 (d) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the assessment
22 and analysis required by subsection (b), the Secretary
23 shall consult with—

24 (1) the heads of such agencies and offices of
25 the Federal Government as the Secretary considers
26 appropriate, including the Secretary of Agriculture,

1 the Director of the Bureau of the Census, the Com-
2 missioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the
3 Small Business Administration, and the Federal
4 Communications Commission;

5 (2) representatives of business, including rural
6 and urban Internet service providers and tele-
7 communications infrastructure providers;

8 (3) representatives from State, local, and tribal
9 government agencies; and

10 (4) representatives from consumer and commu-
11 nity organizations.

12 (e) REPORT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
14 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
15 of Commerce shall submit to the appropriate com-
16 mittees of Congress a report on the findings of the
17 Secretary with respect to the assessment and anal-
18 ysis conducted under subsection (b).

19 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
20 GRESS.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate
21 committees of Congress” means—

22 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
23 and Transportation of the Senate;

24 (B) the Committee on Environment and
25 Public Works of the Senate;

1 (C) the Committee on Small Business and
2 Entrepreneurship of the Senate;

3 (D) the Committee on Energy and Com-
4 merce of the House of Representatives;

5 (E) the Committee on Transportation and
6 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

7 and

8 (F) the Committee on Small Business of
9 the House of Representatives.

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