

Union Calendar No.

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4032

[Report No. 117-]

To provide outreach and technical assistance to small providers regarding the benefits of Open RAN networks, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2021

Mr. ALLRED (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. HUDSON, and Mr. GUTHRIE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

AUGUST --, 2021

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on June 22, 2021]

A BILL

To provide outreach and technical assistance to small providers regarding the benefits of Open RAN networks, 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 “Open RAN Outreach*
5 *Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SMALL**
7 **PROVIDERS REGARDING OPEN RAN NET-**
8 **WORKS.**

9 *(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall con-*
10 *duct outreach and provide technical assistance to small*
11 *communications network providers—*

12 *(1) to raise awareness regarding the uses, bene-*
13 *fits, and challenges of Open RAN networks and other*
14 *open network architectures; and*

15 *(2) regarding participation in the Wireless Sup-*
16 *ply Chain Innovation Grant Program established*
17 *under section 9202(a)(1) of the William M. (Mac)*
18 *Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for*
19 *Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283).*

20 *(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

21 *(1) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term “Assist-*
22 *ant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary of Com-*
23 *merce for Communications and Information, acting*
24 *through the head of the Office of Internet Connectivity*
25 *and Growth.*

1 (2) *OPEN NETWORK ARCHITECTURE.*—*The term*
2 “*open network architecture*” *means Open RAN net-*
3 *works and other network elements that follow a set of*
4 *published open standards for multi-vendor network*
5 *equipment interoperability, including open core and*
6 *open transport.*

7 (3) *OPEN RAN NETWORK.*—*The term “Open RAN*
8 *network” means a wireless network that follows the*
9 *Open Radio Access Network approach to standardiza-*
10 *tion adopted by the O-RAN Alliance, Telecom Infra*
11 *Project, or Third Generation Partnership Project*
12 *(3GPP), or any similar set of published open stand-*
13 *ards for multi-vendor network equipment interoper-*
14 *ability.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to provide out-reach and technical assistance to small providers regarding Open RAN networks, and for other purposes.”.