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6 MARKUP ON:

7 H.R. 3309 (PALMER, RYAN), TO AMEND THE STANDARD FEES TO  
8 EXPEDITE EVALUATION AND STREAMLINING ACT;

9 H.R. 3293 (DUNCAN, CRAIG), EXPEDITING FEDERAL BROADBAND  
10 DEPLOYMENT ACT;

11 H.R. 3299 (CAMMACK, MATSUI), DEPLOYING INFRASTRUCTURE WITH  
12 GREATER INTERNET TRANSACTIONS AND LEGACY APPLICATIONS ACT;

13 H.R. 3283 (MILLER-MEEKS, DINGELL), FACILITATING THE  
14 DEPLOYMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE WITH GREATER INTERNET  
15 TRANSACTIONS AND LEGACY APPLICATIONS ACT,

16 H.R. 3343 (PFLUGER, SOTO), FEDERAL BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT  
17 TRACKING ACT;

18 H.R. 3345 (RODGERS), TO AMEND THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF  
19 1934 TO EXTEND THE AUTHORITY OF THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS  
20 COMMISSION TO GRANT A LICENSE OR CONSTRUCTION PERMIT THROUGH  
21 A SYSTEM OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING;

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22 H.R. 3291 (CARTER), PROPORTIONAL REVIEWS FOR BROADBAND  
23 DEPLOYMENT ACT  
24 WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2023  
25 House of Representatives,  
26 Subcommittee on Communications and Technology,  
27 Committee on Energy and Commerce,  
28 Washington, D.C.

29  
30  
31

32 The Subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 2:22 p.m., in  
33 Room 2123, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Robert E.  
34 Latta [Chairman of the Subcommittee] presiding.

35 Present: Representatives Latta, Bilirakis, Walberg,  
36 Carter, Dunn, Curtis, Joyce, Weber, Allen, Balderson,  
37 Fulcher, Pfluger, Harshbarger, Cammack, Obernolte, Rodgers  
38 [ex officio]; Matsui, Clarke, Veasey, Soto, Eshoo, Cardenas,  
39 Craig, Fletcher, Dingell, Kuster, Kelly, and Pallone [ex  
40 officio].

41

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42           Staff present: Jolie Brochin, Clerk, Health; Sarah  
43 Burke, Deputy Staff Director; Lauren Eriksen, Clerk, O&I;  
44 Slate Herman, Counsel, C&T; Jessica Herron, Clerk, IDC; Nate  
45 Hodson, Staff Director; Tara Hupman, Chief Counsel; Noah  
46 Jackson, Clerk, C&T; Sean Kelly, Press Secretary; Peter  
47 Kielty, General Counsel; Emily King, Member Services  
48 Director; Giulia Leganski, Professional Staff Member, C&T;  
49 John Lin, Senior Counsel, C&T; Kate O'Connor, Chief Counsel,  
50 C&T; Carla Rafael, Senior Staff Assistant; Michael Taggart,  
51 Policy Director; Evan Viau, Professional Staff Member, C&T;  
52 Hannah Anton, Minority Policy Analyst; Jennifer Epperson,  
53 Minority Chief Counsel, Communications and Technology;  
54 Waverly Gordon, Minority Deputy Staff Director and General  
55 Counsel; Tiffany Guarascio, Minority Staff Director; Perry  
56 Hamilton, Minority Member Services and Outreach Manager; Dan  
57 Miller, Minority Professional Staff Member; Michael Scurato,  
58 Minority FCC Detailee; Andrew Souvall, Minority Director of  
59 Communications, Outreach and Member Services; and Johanna  
60 Thomas, Minority Counsel.

61

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62           \*Mr. Latta. Well, good afternoon. The Subcommittee  
63 will come to order and the Chair recognizes himself for an  
64 opening statement.

65           \*Mr. Latta. Good afternoon and welcome to today's  
66 Subcommittee Markup of 27 pieces of legislation in Barriers  
67 to Broadband Deployment.

68           The bills we will consider today will reduce or  
69 eliminate unnecessary restrictive permitting policies that  
70 threaten the success of the largest investment in broadband  
71 infrastructure this country has ever made.

72           I said before and I will say it again, the  
73 Infrastructure Law was a missed opportunity to enact  
74 meaningful permitting reform. Today we have an opportunity  
75 to fix that mistake.

76           While I am happy that several of the bills before us are  
77 bipartisan, it is disheartening that my colleagues on the  
78 other side of the aisle were unwilling to work with us on the  
79 remainder of the bills in this package.

80           Our proposals make meaningful, common-sense reforms to  
81 many permitting processes that are barriers to the broadband  
82 deployment. With the legislation we are considering today,

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83 we are acting to modernize broadband permitting in three  
84 important ways.

85 First, to streamline state and local permitting  
86 processes. Second, reducing permitting barriers on federal  
87 property. And third, removing cumbersome environmental and  
88 historical review processes for broadband deployment in  
89 certain circumstances.

90 Included in this markup is a bill I am proud to lead,  
91 the WIRELESS Leadership Act. This bill places reasonable  
92 limitations on state and local governments for fees they may  
93 charge and will prevent them from delaying application  
94 approvals.

95 Specifically, it provides much needed transparency into  
96 the application process for broadband providers, which helps  
97 in the effort to invest in new or upgraded infrastructure.

98 These companies deserve a timely and predictable  
99 response to their applications. It would also impose clear  
100 shot clocks that would provide reasonable expectations for  
101 both applicants and local governments.

102 Additionally, this legislation would address state and  
103 local governments that prohibit the deployment of broadband

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104 infrastructure or fail to act on an application.

105 Applications that a state or local government fails to grant  
106 or deny within the timeframe described in the bill would be  
107 deemed granted.

108 In addition to my legislation, we will forward on to the  
109 full Committee 18 bills that will speed up deployment of  
110 broadband to rural areas and streamline the network upgrade  
111 process that will invest in broadband speeds for more  
112 Americans.

113 Additionally, we are going to consider eight bills that  
114 take steps to streamline the cumbersome requirements that  
115 deploy broadband on federal lands.

116 These bills will fastrack deployment, encourage network  
117 upgrades, and simplify the historical and environmental  
118 review processes. The federal government has now dedicated  
119 billions of dollars to connect all Americans through a  
120 variety of programs. We have heard it time and time again,  
121 reforming and simplifying broadband permitting is the only  
122 way we can make this money go further and connect more  
123 Americans faster.

124 Over the last several years, billions of dollars have

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125 been made available for state and local governments that can  
126 be used to increase staff to process applications and we have  
127 heard from witnesses that resources could be helpful.

128         The resources are there and should be dedicated to  
129 process permits to avoid these issues. House Republicans are  
130 not the only ones preaching this message, in fact, even the  
131 Biden Administration's notice of funding opportunity, the  
132 BEAD Program, requires states to identify actionable steps to  
133 reduce costs and barriers to deployment, promote the use of  
134 existing infrastructure, including expediting permitting  
135 timelines, and waiting fees.

136         The Biden-Harris Permitting Action Plan calls for many  
137 of the solutions we have put forward today. The goal of  
138 closing the digital divide cannot be accomplished without  
139 improving the permitting process, particularly on federal  
140 lands.

141         Despite these recommendations, many of the bills being  
142 considered today do not have Democrat support, but we welcome  
143 your support as we move forward to full Committee.

144         Lastly, we will consider legislation to extend the FCC  
145 spectrum auction authority. It is vitally important that we

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146 continue to push for a long-term spectrum auction authority  
147 solution and this legislation is a step in that direction.

148 I want to thank all the members of the Subcommittee for  
149 their work on these measures and I also look forward to  
150 advancing them to the full Committee.

151 \*Mr. Latta. And with that I am going to yield back the  
152 balance of my time and recognize the ranking member of the  
153 Subcommittee, the gentlelady from California for five minutes  
154 for her opening statement.

155 \*Ms. Matsui. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The bipartisan  
156 items on the agenda today will speed broadband deployment and  
157 help bring connectivity to communities without it.

158 From the small hamlets in my district to the rest of the  
159 rural areas represented by Members of this Subcommittee,  
160 those bills represent an important step forward.

161 I am an original cosponsor of the DIGITAL Applications  
162 Act on the agenda today. This bill would take long-overdue  
163 action to establish online portals to accept, process, and  
164 grant applications for broadband deployment.

165 As we heard at the hearing on this bill, the current  
166 process for submitting and tracking the progress of



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167 applications is severely disjointed.

168           As the Wireless Infrastructure Association noted in our  
169 hearing, "measures that would direct federal agencies to  
170 develop online application portals have the potential to  
171 significantly expedite the permitting process."

172           So I am glad to see the DIGITAL Applications Act moving  
173 forward. It will provide much needed clarity and  
174 accountability for broadband deployment on federal lands, but  
175 that is not the only bipartisan bill that will speed up  
176 broadband deployment.

177           We have bills that will expedite evaluation, standardize  
178 fees, and speed up permitting. Representative Palmer and  
179 Ryan's Standard FEES Act would establish a common fee for  
180 applications processing.

181           Representatives Duncan and Craig's Expediting Federal  
182 Broadband Deployment Act would establish an interagency  
183 strike force to prioritize broadband deployment on federal  
184 lands.

185           As we prepare for the distribution of BEAD funds, these  
186 bills will remove barriers and speed up deployments. But  
187 unfortunately, that is only part of the story.

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188           There are other bills on the agenda today that are  
189 partisan and counterproductive. They undermine local  
190 authority and limit, rather than support, local governments.

191           Draconian shot clocks coupled with deemed grant  
192 provisions set up under-resourced local governments to fail.  
193 Instead of providing the resources our local partners need to  
194 meet demand, these bills limit their authority and restrict  
195 their processes.

196           So while I am glad we are making bipartisan process, the  
197 Minority and many of our local governments are concerned  
198 about the partisan bills moving forward today.

199           Despite that, I know there will be a continued need to  
200 focus on this issue. So I am excited to have bipartisan  
201 bills to help close the digital divide and I am committed to  
202 moving them to the floor quickly.

203           I also want to take a moment to acknowledge that this  
204 Subcommittee will be considering another short-term extension  
205 of the FCC's auction authority.

206           As I said at our hearing the day after that authority  
207 lapsed, this was, and continues to be, a failure.  
208 Reinstating it is a national security and economic

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209 imperative.

210 With companies like T-Mobile ready to put 2.5 gigahertz  
211 licenses to use, this rolling lapse is preventing companies  
212 from providing new broadband services to American consumers.

213 And, in the run-up to the World Radio Conference, it  
214 sends a dangerous message to the rest of the world about our  
215 ability to lead.

216 So this extension is a step in the right direction, but  
217 without a willing partner in the Senate, it may not be  
218 enough.

219 Nevertheless, I am glad our Subcommittee is moving  
220 forward. With that, I look forward to discussion of these  
221 bills and I yield back the balance of my time.

222 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back the  
223 balance of her time.

224 The Chair now recognizes for five minutes the gentlelady  
225 from Washington, the Chair of the full Committee, for five  
226 minutes.

227 \*The Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

228 I appreciate you holding this important markup. High  
229 speed broadband is a critical part of today's modern economy,

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230 yet some Americans, still do not have reliable internet  
231 access.

232 We need effective reforms to accelerate the buildout of  
233 high-speed internet and the bills we are considering today  
234 will speed the deployment of broadband infrastructure and  
235 ensure that federal funding is permitting conductivity,  
236 rather than becoming government waste.

237 We are leading on proposals that take meaningful steps  
238 to reduce unnecessary barriers to broadband deployment. Many  
239 of our bills have strong bipartisan support, and I am hopeful  
240 we will continue to garner more support for all these bills.

241 My colleagues are committed to getting this job done.  
242 For the American people, it will mean better and faster  
243 internet access so that they can build a business,  
244 communicate with their loved ones, advance their education,  
245 improve the world around them, and so much more.

246 The money is there. Congress has made the investment.  
247 Now, we need to take the next step to roll back regulations  
248 to get reliable broadband to every American more quickly.

249 These measures will ensure that we prioritize broadband  
250 to rural, unserved communities that need it most by making

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251 sure that federal regulations don't prevent Americans from  
252 being connected.

253         Committee Republicans have introduced these proposals  
254 for the last two Congresses and even the Biden Administration  
255 has put out a Permitting Action Plan to rollback permitting  
256 requirements to ensure effective use of the billions of  
257 dollars dedicated for infrastructure buildout.

258         We will hear more about many of these important  
259 solutions today that will ensure effective broadband  
260 deployment and I am pleased to be leading on the Wildfire  
261 Communications Resiliency Act, which streamlines the  
262 deployment of broadband projects to repair or replace  
263 communication facilities damaged by wildfires.

264         In the aftermath of a wildfire, it can be vital, even  
265 lifesaving to be able to quickly restore communications  
266 networks. So those impacted by -- in responding to a fire  
267 can get the resources they need.

268         This process should not be slowed down by cumbersome  
269 permitting issues and environmental reviews. This bill is  
270 just one of many good pieces of legislation up for review  
271 today.

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272           We are also considering legislation to extend the FCC  
273 spectrum auction authority, which expired in March, for the  
274 first time ever.

275           My goal is to continue working on a broader deal to  
276 extend the spectrum auction authority longer term and provide  
277 certainty to the FCC and the communications industry, fund  
278 important priorities like the Rip and Replace Program, and  
279 next generation 9-1-1, and work with my colleagues across the  
280 aisle and in the Senate to make this a bipartisan deal that  
281 gets signed into law.

282           I want to thank the sponsors of these bills, both  
283 Republicans and Democrats for their work. I am hopeful that  
284 my colleagues across the aisle will consider working with us  
285 to make all of these solutions bipartisan. These bills will  
286 help unleash American innovation, deploy broadband across the  
287 country, and make America more secure.

288           Let's keep working to move solutions through the regular  
289 order process. Thank you, I yield back.

290           \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you very much. The gentlelady  
291 yields back.

292           The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey,

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293 the ranking member of the full Committee, for five minutes.

294 \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Chairman Latta.

295 This markup today, in my opinion, is a missed  
296 opportunity by the Republican majority. While I am happy to  
297 support a small handful of bipartisan bills that improve  
298 certain process at federal agencies that deal with broadband  
299 permitting, I am disappointed to say that the major  
300 permitting bill would run roughshod over critical  
301 environmental and cultural protections.

302 It is a partisan bill that will ultimately do nothing to  
303 ensure that the historic broadband investments Democrats  
304 delivered as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law reach  
305 all communities that need it.

306 As this Subcommittee heard at the legislative hearing  
307 just a few weeks ago, the biggest obstacle to permitting is a  
308 lack of resources at permitting agencies at the federal,  
309 state, and local level, which are responsible for processing  
310 siting applications.

311 The witness panel delivered that message loud and clear,  
312 even as the Majority denied us a second Democratic witness  
313 and stacked the panel, in a departure from Committee

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314 precedent.

315           Democrats addressed the resources issue for federal  
316 agencies last year with passage of the Inflation Reduction  
317 Act. That law, which was opposed by every Republican on this  
318 Committee, appropriated money to the relevant agencies to  
319 speed up environmental reviews and is already proving to be  
320 effective in accelerating those processes for large  
321 environmental projects.

322           Unfortunately, one bill that would address this issue  
323 for local governments, Representative Fletcher's Broadband  
324 Incentives for Communities Act, is not on this markup today  
325 because we were unable to reach agreement on a solution that  
326 provides the resources that local governments need, and will  
327 continue to lack, for this very purpose.

328           Instead of solving that problem today, we will consider  
329 an AINS that throws together almost two dozen partisan bills  
330 that have no chance of becoming law. Many of these bills  
331 would exempt communications infrastructure from environmental  
332 and historic preservation requirements when, in reality, most  
333 of these projects do not require those approvals.

334           And whether or not these requirements exist, there will



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335 still be bottleneck at permit offices if there are not enough  
336 qualified employees at the agencies to review and approve the  
337 applications.

338       To make matters worse, another set of these partisan  
339 bills would severely weaken the authority of local  
340 governments to steer investment and deployments in their own  
341 communities. This kind of deregulation and preemption of  
342 local authority is one reason the digital divide has grown to  
343 be as pervasive as it is today.

344       We simply can't continue to make it easier for  
345 communications providers to cherry pick the areas they want  
346 to serve and, more importantly, to avoid investing in the  
347 areas they don't.

348       These communities tend to be overwhelmingly low income,  
349 rural, and communities of color. When providers turn their  
350 backs on these communities, they are denying the people there  
351 the tremendous opportunities that modern communications  
352 infrastructure provides, educational opportunities, advanced  
353 medical services, job training, and much more.

354       It is disappointing that my Republican colleagues have  
355 not learned these lessons and have instead chosen to forge a

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356 partisan path on legislation that would only exacerbate the  
357 problem.

358 I would also point out that in their Default on America  
359 Bill, the Majority would make severe cuts to federal agency  
360 budgets, and they would also claw back the money that state  
361 and local governments received during COVID.

362 So at the same time, they are demanding more of these  
363 permitting agencies, they are cutting their resources and it  
364 makes no sense.

365 Whenever my Republican colleagues are ready to work in a  
366 productive way on targeted solutions, Democratic members are  
367 ready and eager to have those discussions.

368 Finally, I would like to mention Chair Rodgers' spectrum  
369 bill that we will consider today. We must renew the Federal  
370 Communications Commission's auction authority for the long  
371 term. We must also restore the National Telecommunications  
372 and Information Administration's place as the clear manager  
373 of federal spectrum and ensure that the proceeds from future  
374 auctions be used to fund important projects that benefit the  
375 public.

376 The bill before us today is a short-term bill, but Chair

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377 Rodgers and I will continue to work on these issues together  
378 and with our Senate colleagues. I look forward to soon  
379 passing a comprehensive package.

380 And with that, I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

381 \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you. The gentleman yields  
382 back.

383 The Chair reminds members that, pursuant to Committee  
384 rules, all Members' statements will be made part of the  
385 record. Are there any further opening statements?

386

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387 H.R. 3309

388 \*Mr. Latta. Hearing none, the Chair calls up H.R. 3309  
389 and asks the clerk to report.

390 \*The Clerk. H.R. 3309 to amend the Middle-Class Tax  
391 Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012; to establish a uniform  
392 fee schedule --

393 \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the  
394 bill was dispensed with and the bill will be open for  
395 amendment at any point.

396 So ordered.

397 Does anyone seek to be recognized on the bill?

398 Okay. Last call. Does any member wish to be recognized  
399 on the bill?

400 Well, hearing none, are they are any more bipartisan  
401 amendments to the bill?

402 Hearing none. Are there any other amendments?

403 The question now occurs in forwarding H.R. 3309 to the  
404 full Committee.

405 All those in favor, will signify by saying aye.

406 Those opposed, nay.

407 The ayes have it and the bill is agreed to.

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408 [H.R. 3309 follows:]

409

410 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

411

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412 H.R. 3293

413 \*Mr. Latta. The Chair calls up H.R. 3293 and asks the  
414 Clerk to report.

415 \*The Clerk. H.R. 3293, to require the Assistant  
416 Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to  
417 establish an interagency strike force --

418 \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the  
419 bill is dispensed with and the bill will be open for  
420 amendment at any point.

421 Does anyone seek recognition on the bill?

422 Are there any bipartisan amendments to the bill?

423 Are there any other amendments to the bill?

424 Hearing none, the question now occurs informing H.R.  
425 3293 to the full Committee.

426 All those in favor, will signify by saying aye.

427 All opposed, no.

428 The ayes have it. The bill is agreed to.

429 [H.R. 3293 follows:]

430

431 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

432

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433 H.R. 3299

434 \*Mr. Latta. The Chair calls up H.R. 3299 and asks the  
435 clerk to report.

436 \*The Clerk. H.R. 3299, to require the Department of the  
437 Interior and the Department of Agricultural to establish  
438 online portals to accept, process, and dispose of certain  
439 form 299s --

440 \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the  
441 bill is dispensed with and the bill will be open for  
442 amendment at any point, so ordered.

443 Does anyone seek to be recognized on the bill?

444 Why does the gentlelady from Florida seek recognition?

445 \*Mrs. Cammack. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

446 \*Mr. Latta. The gentlelady is recognized.

447 \*Mrs. Cammack. Thank you. I am glad we are considering  
448 the Digital Applications Act today and I want to thank my  
449 colleagues from California and the ranking member of the  
450 Subcommittee, Ms. Matsui, for her leadership in this bill.

451 This bill is common sense. Simply requiring that the  
452 Department of the Interior and the Department of Agricultural  
453 establish an online portal for acceptance, processing, and

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454 disposal of standard forms 299 for communication use  
455 authorizations.

456         This bill would help close the digital divide by  
457 providing transparency and predictability into the process,  
458 making it easier to track these common form applications to  
459 deploy communication facilities on federal lands.

460         During our last legislative hearing in this  
461 Subcommittee, we heard from all of our witnesses about how  
462 this common-sense bipartisan piece of legislation would  
463 improve the deployment of broadband across federal lands.

464         I would like to thank Chairman Latta for his leadership  
465 in bringing up this package of broadband permitting reform  
466 bills and, as we all know, these bills are critical to close  
467 the digital divide and deploy broadband quickly and  
468 efficiently across the country.

469         I would also like to thank Representative Matsui for  
470 partnering with me on this bill and thanks again, Mr.  
471 Chairman, for holding this markup. I urge all Members to  
472 support this commonsense piece of legislation and support the  
473 Digital Applications act.

474         I yield.



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475           \*Mr. Latta. Thank you very much. The gentlelady yields  
476 back. Are there any other members seeking recognition?  
477           Are there any bipartisan amendments to the bill?  
478           Are there any other amendments?  
479           Hearing none, the question now occurs on forwarding H.R.  
480 3299 to the full Committee.  
481           All those in favor, signify by saying aye.  
482           Those opposed, nay.  
483           The ayes have it and the bill is agreed to.  
484           [H.R. 3299 follows:]  
485  
486           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*  
487

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488 H.R. 3283

489 \*Mr. Latta. The Chair calls up H.R. 3283 and asks the  
490 clerk to report.

491 \*The Clerk. H.R. 3283. To require the Assistant  
492 Secretary of Commerce for communications and information to  
493 report to Congress on any barriers to establishing online  
494 portals --

495 \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the  
496 bill is dispensed with. The bill will be open for amendment  
497 at any point. So ordered.

498 Does anyone seek recognition on the bill?

499 The gentlelady from Michigan is recognized -- would the  
500 gentlelady wish to be recognized?

501 \*Mrs. Dingell. Mr. Chair, I move to strike the last  
502 word.

503 \*Mr. Latta. The gentlelady is recognized. Strike the  
504 last word and is recognized for five minutes.

505 \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

506 In previous hearings on this Committee, we have heard  
507 from experts that several agencies are not properly equipped  
508 and prepared to quickly process the increase in permitting

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509 applications resulting from the once in a generation  
510 investments made in the Bipartisan Infrastructure law.

511 Investments that would bring broadband access to every  
512 community across our country. We need legislation to allow  
513 faster, more accurate disposal of permitting applications for  
514 communications and utility infrastructure to help us get  
515 these important projects underway and reach the people who  
516 need them the most.

517 That is why Congresswoman Miller-Meeks and I introduced  
518 the Facilitating Digital Applications Act. This legislation  
519 and coordination with the Digital Applications Act, led by  
520 Reps Cammack and Matsui, will ensure that the Department of  
521 the Interior and the Department of Agriculture have  
522 established an online portal for applications to deploy  
523 communications and other utility infrastructure on federal  
524 property.

525 The bill requires the National Telecommunications and  
526 Information Administration to report to Congress every 60  
527 days on the status of this application portal, expediting the  
528 swift deployment of this portal.

529 These departments, to date, do not provide an online

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530 application for Form 299 requests. An online portal option  
531 will assist these agencies with managing the increased number  
532 of applications, maximizing the benefits of these important  
533 programs.

534 This legislation is a good government approach that will  
535 provide certainty and ease of access to industry, while  
536 preserving critical protections. The bill ensures that we  
537 are continuing to thoughtfully modernize permitting  
538 applications in a bipartisan manner.

539 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for including this bill as part  
540 of today's markup. I would like to thank Representative  
541 Cammack and Matsui for their work supporting the effective  
542 and efficient delivery of these programs and Representative  
543 Miller-Meeks for working with me on this important bipartisan  
544 legislation and I urge all of my colleagues to support the  
545 underlying bill.

546 Thank you, and I yield back.

547 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back.

548 Are there any other members seeking recognition on the  
549 bill?

550 Hearing none, are there any bipartisan amendments to the

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551 bill?

552 Are there any other amendments to the bill?

553 Hearing none, the question now occurs on informing H.R.

554 3283 to the full Committee.

555 All those in favor, will signify by saying aye.

556 Those opposed, nay?

557 The ayes have it and the bill is agreed to.

558 [H.R. 3283 as follows:]

559

560 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

561

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562 H.R. 3343

563 \*Mr. Latta. The Chair now calls up H.R. 3343, and asks  
564 the clerk to report.

565 \*The Clerk. H.R. 3343, to require the Assistant  
566 Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to  
567 submit to Congress a plan --

568 \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the  
569 bill is dispensed with and the bill will be open for  
570 amendment at any point. So ordered.

571 Does anyone seek to be recognized on the bill?

572 Hearing none, are there any bipartisan amendments to the  
573 bill?

574 Are there any other amendments to the bill? Oh, I am  
575 sorry. The gentleman from Florida is recognized.

576 Why does this gentleman seek recognition?

577 \*Mr. Soto. To strike the last word.

578 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized to strike the  
579 last word for five minutes.

580 \*Mr. Soto. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am proud to be  
581 able to co-introduce H.R. 3343 with my dear friend Mr.  
582 Pfluger.

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583           We know with the Federal Broadband Deployment Tracking  
584 Act, it is going to help us be more efficient and ask the  
585 NTIA to submit a plan to Congress on tracking acceptance  
586 processing and disposal of requests for communications uses  
587 for authorization on federal property, is something that with  
588 Florida, Texas, and especially out West, so many different  
589 lands owned by the federal government. This is key to help  
590 get this through.

591           I just went down to an area of the District, cattle  
592 country, Kenansville, just south of where I live in Kissimmee  
593 and we see first-hand the investment in rural broadband  
594 finally getting to our ranchers and our growers, thanks to  
595 the American Rescue Plan, to the Infrastructure Law.

596           So making sure we can help streamline this process is  
597 absolutely critical for our constituents and others across  
598 the nation. And I yield back.

599           \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you. The gentleman yields  
600 back. Are there any other members seeking recognition?

601           Again, are there any bipartisan amendments to the bill?

602           Are there any other amendments to the legislation?

603           Hearing none, the question now occurs on forwarding H.R.

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604 3343 to the full Committee.

605 All those in favor, will signify by saying aye.

606 Those opposed, nay.

607 The ayes have it and the bill is agreed to.

608 [H.R. 3343 follows:]

609

610 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

611



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612 H.R. 3345

613 \*Mr. Latta. The Chair calls up H.R. 3345, and asks the  
614 clerk to report.

615 \*The Clerk. H.R. 3345, to amend the Communications Act  
616 of 1934 to extend the authority of the Federal Communications  
617 Commission --

618 \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the  
619 bill is dispensed with and the bill be open for amendment at  
620 any point. So ordered.

621 Does anyone seek to be recognized on the bill?

622 The full Committee chair will be here momentarily and so  
623 she would like to speak on the legislation.

624 Again, does anyone else seek recognition on the bill?

625 We will just hold temporarily.

626 For what purpose does the gentlelady, the full Committee  
627 Chair, from Washington seek recognition?

628 \*The Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I move to strike  
629 the last word.

630 \*Mr. Latta. The gentlelady is recognized for five  
631 minutes to strike the last word.

632 \*The Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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633           As both Ranking Member Pallone and I have stated, our  
634 goal is to reauthorize the FCC's auction authority, restore  
635 NTIAs rule as federal spectrum manager, and fund important  
636 telecommunications programs, including Rip and Replace with  
637 auction proceeds.

638           When this bill moves to the full Committee, my goal is  
639 to amend it to reflect all of this and extend spectrum  
640 auction authority for enough time for us to develop a  
641 spectrum pipeline.

642           I look forward to working with my colleagues on both  
643 sides of the aisle as we develop a deal to amend this  
644 placeholder at the full Committee.

645           I yield back.

646           \*Mr. Latta. Thank you very much. The gentlelady yields  
647 back.

648           Are there any other members seeking recognition on the  
649 bill?

650           Are there any bipartisan amendments on the bill?

651           Are there any amendments to the legislation?

652           Hearing none, the question now occurs on forwarding H.R.

653 33 -- oh, I am sorry. I am sorry.

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654           The gentlelady from the 16th District from California is  
655 recognized for five minutes.

656           \*Ms. Eshoo. Very good, Mr. Chairman. I thank you.

657           I just thank you, Mr. Chairman, and our wonderful  
658 ranking member.

659           I wanted to say a few words about where we find  
660 ourselves right now relative to spectrum and auction  
661 authority.

662           First of all, the federal government has benefited  
663 enormously from the results of auctions. We know that  
664 spectrum, and we have dealt with it for decades here, that  
665 Spectrum is the gold. It is not only 14 karat; it is 18  
666 karat gold. It was valuable gold and that is why companies  
667 pursue it. And they have that opportunity through making  
668 bids at the auctions when there is some spectrum available.

669           Now, we know that T-Mobile took advantage of that  
670 auction and put up hundreds of millions of dollars. Now, and  
671 they have gotten zero. They have gotten zero.

672           Now, if any of us don't pay our federal taxes, what  
673 happens to us? We have to pay some kind of fine for not  
674 giving them the money. Here, in this situation, the

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675 government has taken the money and the stakeholder gets zero,  
676 but notch it up from there. This is a national security  
677 issue.

678 If spectrum is not handled wisely in our country, it is  
679 not only a national security issue, it is an issue relative  
680 to competitiveness. So I welcome what the Subcommittee is  
681 doing. I welcome what the Subcommittee is doing.

682 Something is (inaudible) somewhere, I just have a sense  
683 that I don't know, the right people have not sat down with  
684 the DoD and I mean, I have dealt with this issue before and  
685 we had to bring them in to make sure that they were right  
686 there with us.

687 But having said all of this, I really wanted to  
688 highlight it with some remarks, because it is serious. This  
689 is really serious. This has never happened before. This has  
690 never happened before.

691 I mean, I have weighed in with the Federal  
692 Communications Commission. I mean, this is, it is a mess  
693 right now. That is the way I would categorize it and so I  
694 welcome what we are doing. I hope that it sends a strong  
695 signal to all of the stakeholders how serious this is and

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696 that we get back to, I know the term regular, doesn't sound  
697 very sexy, but in this case, I really welcome it.

698 So I thank the leadership of the Committee, all of the  
699 Members and that is what I wanted to say about it. I am  
700 really disturbed about this thing and that there doesn't seem  
701 to be any coming together anywhere.

702 There is just another wanted to throw the sand in the  
703 gears, they were successful, but that it not an answer and  
704 it is not good for our country. It is bad for our country.

705 So I don't expect that they read my remarks in the  
706 record and they will be so moved to get off their duffs, but  
707 I sure welcome the opportunity to get this off my chest.

708 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

709 \*Mr. Latta. Well, I thank the gentlelady for yielding  
710 back and you never know, they might read those words and we  
711 have to get some movement on this.

712 Are there any other members seeking recognition?

713 Are there any bipartisan amendments to the bill?

714 Are there any amendments to the bill?

715 Hearing none, the question now occurs on forwarding H.R.  
716 3345 to the full Committee.

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717 All those in favor, will signify by saying aye.

718 Those opposed, nay.

719 The ayes have it and the bill is agreed to.

720 [H.R. 3345 follows:]

721

722 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

723

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724 H.R. 3291

725 The Chair now calls up H.R. 3291, and asks the clerk to  
726 report.

727 \*The Clerk. H.R. 3291, to provide that eligible  
728 facilities request under Section 6409(a) of the Middle-Class  
729 Tax Relief --

730 \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the first reading of the  
731 bill is dispensed with and the bill will be open for  
732 amendment at any point, so ordered.

733 Does anyone seek to be recognized on the bill?

734 Are there any bipartisan amendments to the bill?

735 Are there any amendments to the bill?

736 For what does the Vice Chair of the Subcommittee, the  
737 gentleman from Georgia seek recognition?

738 \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment in the  
739 nature of a substitute at the desk.

740 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized.

741 \*Mr. Carter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

742 \*Mr. Latta. Oh, I'm sorry, and would the clerk report  
743 the amendment, please?

744 \*The Clerk. Can the member please specify the

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745 amendment?

746 \*Mr. Latta. I'm sorry?

747 \*The Clerk. Can you please specify the amendment? The  
748 identification?

749 \*Mr. Carter. Manager's Amendment to H.R. 3291.

750 \*The Clerk. ANS\_01?

751 \*Mr. Carter. Yes.

752 \*The Clerk. Thank you.

753 Amendment in the nature of a substitute to H.R. 3291,  
754 offered by Mr. Carter of Georgia.

755 Strike all after the enacting cause --

756 \*Mr. Latta. Read without objection, the reading of the  
757 amendment is dispensed with and the amendment will be open,  
758 at this time, and the gentleman from Georgia is recognized  
759 for five minutes.

760 [The amendment ANS\_01 of Mr. Carter follows:]

761

762 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

763



**This is an unedited transcript. The statements within may be inaccurate, incomplete, or misattributed to the speaker.**

764           \*Mr. Carter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

765           Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank all of my colleagues  
766 for their work to meeting different solutions to lower  
767 barriers and streamline the process for deploying broadband  
768 to all Americans.

769           This amendment includes several provisions, authored by  
770 my Republican colleagues, addressing everything from  
771 duplicative, unnecessary environmental reviews, limiting  
772 unnecessary application fees, and providing certainty on the  
773 timelines for reviewing permitting requests.

774           At our legislative hearing we heard from experts about  
775 the missed opportunities in the Infrastructure Investment and  
776 Jobs Act to address broadband permitting barriers. While the  
777 Senate did not take action on these important issues, today  
778 we are taking the first step to unleash innovation and  
779 turbocharge public and private investment.

780           First, my amendment would streamline the process for  
781 requesting approvals to deploy new broadband infrastructure,  
782 including wireless towers or structures, fixed broadband, and  
783 fiber optic cables, and cable service provider requests.

784           The amendment would require that application fees to

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785 review permitting applications are based on actual direct  
786 costs, that providers receive a response within a reasonable  
787 amount of time; and that there are clear rules of road for  
788 when these timeframes begin and end.

789         And in cases where a broadband provider thinks they were  
790 wrongfully denied the ability to provide service, they can  
791 receive the lease so that they can focus their time and  
792 energy on what matters most, connecting all Americans.

793         Second, my amendment will streamline the process for  
794 requesting approval to upgrade existing infrastructure,  
795 including adding 5G to existing 4G towers, upgrading old  
796 copper lines to fiber, deploying open-end and compatible  
797 technologies that will help trusted equipment vendors develop  
798 an alternative to Chinese like Huawei and ZTE, these changes  
799 will help limit the environmental impact of needing new  
800 infrastructure by encouraging providers to upgrade facilities  
801 in areas that have already undergone their environmental or  
802 historic preservation review.

803         Finally, my amendment will ensure that environmental  
804 reviews for broadband deployments are proportional the level  
805 of deployment taking place. In cases where broadband

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806 providers are simply upgrading infrastructure and rights-of-  
807 way that have already been disturbed by other communications  
808 or electric utility infrastructure, an environmental review  
809 has already been undertaken, and the land has already been  
810 disturbed.

811 My amendment would remove the requirement to undergo  
812 these reviews where broadband infrastructure is being  
813 deployed entirely in an area for which a review has already  
814 been conducted and infrastructure already exists.

815 This includes waiving the environmental review to  
816 replace Huawei equipment that is ineligible for reimbursement  
817 under Security Trusted Communications Networks Act. This  
818 straight-forward reform will remove a key barrier to  
819 broadband deployment, especially on federal lands where  
820 reviews can take more than two years.

821 This amendment combines legislation led by every one of  
822 my Republican colleagues on this Committee and I would like  
823 to thank them for their thoughtful proposals to bring  
824 affordable broadband to their communities quickly and ensure  
825 that taxpayers dollars are not wasted on more red tape.

826 I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and I

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827 yield back.

828 \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members seeking  
829 recognition on the amendment?

830 The gentleman from California -- why does the  
831 Representative from California seek recognition?

832 \*Mr. Obernolte. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
833 word.

834 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized for striking  
835 that last word for five minutes.

836 \*Mr. Obernolte. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the  
837 amendment in the nature of a substitute.

838 While this bill, in the amendment form, includes my  
839 bill, which is H.R. 3340, the GRANTED Act. I represent an  
840 extremely rural part of the country and one of the largest  
841 challenges that my constituents face is access to broadband  
842 internet.

843 This is a vital resource for them in areas such as  
844 education and the conduct of business and employment.  
845 Unfortunately, we are often hampered in our efforts to get  
846 broadband into our rural communities because over 80 percent  
847 of the land mass of my district is in public ownership and

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848 deploying broadband infrastructure across those lands  
849 requires an onerous permitting process most often involving  
850 the federal government.

851         Several years ago, we directed the government to  
852 implement an expedited permitting process that put a maximum  
853 of 270 days on the time required to issue a permit, if all of  
854 the other requirements of the permit had been met, but  
855 unfortunately, quite often we are finding that the federal  
856 government takes more than that 270 days, in fact, sometimes  
857 substantially more.

858         This bill enacts a very simple fix to that very  
859 difficult problem by deeming approval of any permit for  
860 broadband infrastructure across public lands that has not  
861 been responded to within 270 days of when the application was  
862 completed.

863         This bill would make a meaningful improvement in the  
864 quality of life of the people I represent by giving them  
865 access to the broadband infrastructure that they lack.

866         I would like to thank my friend and colleague from  
867 Georgia for including this in the AINS and I urge its  
868 adoption.

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869 I yield back.

870 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you very much. The gentleman yields  
871 back.

872 Is there any further discussion on the AINS?

873 The gentlelady from Californica, 16th District is  
874 recognized for five minutes.

875 \*Ms. Eshoo. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

876 \*Mr. Latta. It is like the last one.

877 \*Ms. Eshoo. Thank you.

878 Before coming to Congress, I served for 10 years on the  
879 San Mateo County California Board of Supervisors and to this  
880 day I have a deep appreciation for local government.

881 Academicians, political leaders from both parties,  
882 industry, public interest groups they all agree that  
883 universal high-speed internet is necessary for our country's  
884 competitiveness in the 21st Century.

885 Every single member of this Committee has uttered these  
886 words a multiplicity of times. The pandemic made this even  
887 more evident as so many transitioned to teleworking, with  
888 schools operating through distant learning, doctor visits,  
889 telehealth, 24 million American lack internet access today

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890 and it is a problem that is most acute in rural and tribal  
891 communities.

892       And this number is just those who lack access, millions  
893 more simply just can't afford it. Now, last Congress the  
894 Democrats made a generational investment to bridge the  
895 digital divide and bring reliable, high-speed internet to  
896 every American household, 82 billion, with a b, for broadband  
897 affordability, equity, and deployment.

898       I, to this day, really can't understand why my  
899 Republican colleagues didn't support that. I think you have  
900 a great gig because and you vote no and grab the dough. One  
901 of the most promising solutions to closing the digital  
902 divide, I think comes from local governments.

903       Over 900 counties, cities, municipal utilities, coops,  
904 neighborhood associations, and tribes are taking the digital  
905 divide problem into their own hands by building their own  
906 broadband networks.

907       Community broadband systems expand internet access to  
908 unserved and underserved areas and they encourage competition  
909 across the country. The very things that we constantly are  
910 calling for.

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911           These locally-owned networks are effective. In a 2019  
912 report, New American's Open Technology Institute called these  
913 networks, quote, "the fast, affordable internet option that's  
914 flying under the radar'", end of quote.

915           Unfortunately, 19 states have enacted protectionists  
916 laws that restrict, and in some cases, banned community  
917 networks. This is really unacceptable protectionism and it  
918 protects incumbent service providers from competition.

919           So to solve this problem, I introduced the Community  
920 Broadband Act, which simply prohibits state laws that ban or  
921 restrict community broadband.

922           I am pleased that the Subcommittee considered my bill  
923 during the legislative hearing on April 19th, but  
924 unfortunately, the Majority didn't include it in today's  
925 markup.

926           And when I say, unfortunately, you know, I have access,  
927 so it is not me. It is about our constituents. I think it  
928 is unfortunate, not only for mine, but for yours as well.

929           So this legislative hearing and today's markup are  
930 supposedly efforts to expedite broadband deployment. I mean,  
931 why not let a local jurisdiction to set one up if they so



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932 choose?

933           And this would really improve the access and the  
934 affordability issues. And by, I think, ignoring this we are  
935 really guaranteeing that those options are just really off  
936 the table.

937           So communities, local communities, you are off the  
938 table. You can't do this. Congress doesn't find you, I  
939 don't know, fitting, worthy, smart enough, I don't know what  
940 it is, but there has to be some kind of bias in this to  
941 matter (inaudible).

942           So obviously, I am disappointed that it is not being  
943 taken up. But my larger disappointment is that an  
944 opportunity is really it is a lost opportunity and that is  
945 the real loss for our collective communities across the  
946 country.

947           So thank you for recognizing me and I yield back.

948           \*Mr. Latta. Thank you very much. The gentlelady yields  
949 back and the Chairman now recognizes the gentleman from Utah  
950 for five minutes to speak on the AINS.

951           \*Mr. Obernolte. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I actually  
952 need to just share a few thoughts. I appreciate the

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953 gentlewoman's comments about municipal broadband and I share  
954 a perspective of a former mayor who inherited a municipal  
955 broadband network in my city.

956         And I would like to just push back on some of the  
957 statements that have been made and being of three points.  
958 Municipalities and government entities have three problems  
959 when it comes to municipal broadband.

960         One is risk. Taxpayers don't expect us to take on risk  
961 with their tax dollars. And in a broadband network, those  
962 municipalities that have tried it, we clearly point out there  
963 is a high amount of risk there.

964         The second thing I would like to bring up that is  
965 problematic for municipalities is the pace of change. We  
966 have a public utility and technology didn't change for  
967 decades and decades and decades.

968         Yet, in our broadband network, we found every few years  
969 it required a brand-new investment in upgraded equipment that  
970 exceeded the amount of initial investment.

971         The third thing is the level of expertise. There is  
972 not, in most cities, a level of expertise required to run a  
973 broadband network. Our network ultimately failed and the

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974 city was left with a \$16 million bond that we were unable to  
975 pay and ended up paying to cover the cost of that.

976 And again, we brought in an outside provide to take over  
977 that network.

978 With that I would like to yield that balance of my time  
979 to the Chair, Cathy McMorris Rodgers.

980 \*The Chair. I appreciate the gentleman yielding.

981 With this package of bills, the Republicans are offering  
982 solutions to streamline broadband permitting processes to  
983 improve Americans access to faster, more reliable broadband  
984 services.

985 And this amendment includes measures to ensure that  
986 hundreds of billions of dollars are used for broadband  
987 deployment, not more red tape. And I am disappointed, I am  
988 still hopeful, though, that the Democrats will come and  
989 continue to work with us to make this amendment bipartisan.  
990 We are going to keep working on that.

991 President Biden's Deputy Secretary of Commerce  
992 highlighted permitting as one of the main issues preventing  
993 broadband deployment. NTIA, the agency administering the  
994 record amounts of broadband funding asked states to cap their

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995 fees and streamline their permitting requirements.

996       This amendment would enforce those same exact  
997 requirements. E & C Republicans are leading to ensure that  
998 broadband is deployed quickly. Our nation's networks were  
999 available, withstood the ultimate test during COVID-19 when  
1000 Americans lives moved fully online overnight, and this was  
1001 largely due to America's light touch regulatory framework  
1002 that has enabled innovation and investment in our networks  
1003 and allowed them to adapt when challenged with increased  
1004 demands, like a shift to telework.

1005       But the COVID-19 pandemic also highlighted the breadth  
1006 of the digital divide and further emphasized the need to  
1007 close that gap. Broadband permitting barriers stand between  
1008 a future where everyone is connected and one where rural  
1009 America is once again left behind.

1010       While everyone seems to recognize the value of broadband  
1011 access, the federal government remains inefficient and  
1012 unprepared for the scale of deployment, as envisioned by  
1013 NTIAs BEAD Program.

1014       Many environmental reviews are either duplicative or  
1015 disproportionate to the scale of the undertaking.

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1016 Unnecessarily delaying broadband infrastructure deployment.

1017       These challenges are especially acute in places like  
1018 Eastern Washington that I represent and other parts of the  
1019 Western United States where large swaths of land are  
1020 federally managed.

1021       At our legislative hearing, we heard witness testimony  
1022 that roughly 10 to 15 percent of the cost of broadband  
1023 deployment is related to regulatory fees, including  
1024 permitting costs.

1025       We heard about inefficient, outdated processes that are  
1026 not working as intended, and concerns that broken processes  
1027 will be magnified under the stress of billions in government  
1028 subsidies.

1029       With hundreds of billions in taxpayer dollars available  
1030 for broadband deployment, these permitting costs could result  
1031 in resources being wasted, whether it is fees that are not  
1032 based on actual or direct costs needed to process the  
1033 application, a duplicate, or unnecessary environment rule, a  
1034 delay by a federal agency to approve a project. We need to  
1035 enforce agency accountability. Lift the regulatory burdens  
1036 to foster a light touch regulatory environment.

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1037           This amendment will lower the cost to deploy broadband  
1038 service. It will reduce the time to deploy new and upgraded  
1039 existing broadband infrastructure, and it is going to remove  
1040 barriers to private investment that will turbocharge the  
1041 public dollars.

1042           So let's keep working on this, let's keep working to  
1043 ensure that the over \$42 billion actually gets all Americans  
1044 connected. I yield back.

1045           \*Mr. Latta. The gentlelady yields back. The gentleman  
1046 yields back the balance of his time.

1047           Are there any other members seeking recognition on the  
1048 AINS?

1049           The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for five  
1050 minutes, (inaudible) on the AINS?

1051           \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
1052 word.

1053           Thank you, Mr. Chair.

1054           Briefly, I want to offer support for the package of  
1055 permitting bills before us today, including H.R. 3288, the  
1056 Broadband Competition and Efficient Deployment Act.

1057           It is incumbent upon us to ensure that Americans have

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1058 access to reliable, high-speed internet in order to work, to  
1059 learn, and to heal from home.

1060       Unfortunately, building out broadband infrastructure in  
1061 rural communities has been bogged down by bureaucracy leading  
1062 to unnecessary waste while our constituents and communities  
1063 pay the price.

1064       It is imperative that we make sensible reforms that cut  
1065 red tape and enhance the permitting process. Despite record  
1066 amounts of funding over the past several years, recently  
1067 passed legislation, including the Infrastructure Investment  
1068 and Jobs Act, has failed to implement a needed fix to the  
1069 burdensome permitting process.

1070       Only after making these necessary adjustments can we  
1071 begin the buildout for this crucial infrastructure and bridge  
1072 the digital divide that impacts so many Americans, especially  
1073 those in rural areas like my district, Pennsylvania 13.

1074       Therefore, I urge all of my colleagues to vote yes and  
1075 adopt the package of bills and I yield the remainder of my  
1076 time.

1077       \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields back.

1078       Are there other members wishing to speak on AINS?

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1079           The gentleman from Michigan is recognized for five  
1080 minutes to speak on AINS.

1081           \*Mr. Walberg. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
1082 word.

1083           \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized.

1084           \*Mr. Walberg. The Amendment is in the nature of a  
1085 substitute includes some of my legislation, H.R. 3292, the  
1086 Brownfields Broadband Deployment Act. The EPA's Brownfield  
1087 program is very important for the state of Michigan and more  
1088 specifically, the district I represent.

1089           Because of Michigan's rich manufacturing history, there  
1090 are a number of former industrial sites that are ripe for  
1091 revitalization. Revitalizing these areas encourages economic  
1092 development, injects new tax revenue into the local economy,  
1093 and assists local governments with the support they need to  
1094 address these projects.

1095           But today revitalization can't reach its full potential  
1096 without connection and due to onerous regulations for  
1097 broadband deployment on Brownfield sites, those connections  
1098 are too often delayed.

1099           The legislation will help streamline the deployment of



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1100 broadband projects entirely within Brownfield sites by  
1101 eliminating the requirement to prepare duplicative  
1102 environmental or historic preservation reviews.

1103         These sites are often located in digitally underserved  
1104 areas and the proposed changes will help promote greater  
1105 digital connectivity.

1106         Beyond my legislation, the AINS we are considering today  
1107 includes much needed permitting reforms. We need to get  
1108 rural America connected. The internet is no longer a luxury,  
1109 and constituents like mine in rural areas need broadband so  
1110 their children can do their homework, they can reach their  
1111 doctors, and can stay connected to family and friends.

1112         Getting all Americans connected is a difficult task on  
1113 its own that will take time, but on top of that, broadband  
1114 providers are subject to significant permitting delays at  
1115 both the local and the federal level. Inconsistent  
1116 application portals and high fees only add to these problems.

1117         To get broadband to truly underserved, we must  
1118 streamline our permitting processes. Bureaucratic red tape  
1119 should not be the reason rural Michiganders don't have the  
1120 internet.

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1121 I encourage my colleagues to support the AINS and the  
1122 underlying legislation and I yield back.

1123 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields back.

1124 Are there other members seeking recognition on AINS?

1125 For what purposes the gentleman from Florida seek  
1126 recognition?

1127 \*Mr. Bilirakis. I move to strike the last word, Mr.  
1128 Chairman.

1129 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized for five  
1130 minutes to strike the last word.

1131 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you. Several parts of my  
1132 district lie within flood zones. At the same time one of the  
1133 top concerns of my residents is obtaining and maintaining  
1134 access to reliable internet and cell phone services.

1135 I want to be sure that all of my constituents have  
1136 access to 21st Century technologies, enabling them to harness  
1137 the power that these capabilities offer. Being left behind  
1138 is not an option.

1139 The Coastal Broadband Deployment Act will remove  
1140 burdensome and unnecessary regulatory steps that only serve  
1141 to add months to communications projects that will make

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1142 facilities more resilient to floods, hurricanes, and other  
1143 storms that threaten to hinder communications in an  
1144 emergency.

1145 This bill will promote safety, will ensure that flood-  
1146 prone areas are not delayed in 5G rollout, and will ensure  
1147 that my community and communities like mine get the latest  
1148 technology that define our modern world.

1149 So with that, if anyone wants my time, otherwise, I will  
1150 yield back. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1151 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields back.

1152 Are there other members seeking recognition to speak on  
1153 the AINS?

1154 The gentleman from Ohio seeks recognition. What does  
1155 the gentleman seek recognition for?

1156 \*Mr. Balderson. To speak on the bill, Mr. Chairman.

1157 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized for five  
1158 minutes.

1159 \*Mr. Balderson. Mr. Chairman, I wish to strike the last  
1160 word.

1161 Mr. Chairman, thank you for having this important markup  
1162 today at the massive infusion of \$45 billion about to hit

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1163 states. It is crucial that we do our job in this Committee  
1164 and pave the way the for broadband providers to build out our  
1165 networks quickly and minimize unnecessary red tape.

1166 The bills included in this amendment present a great  
1167 opportunity to ensure that. Not only my constituents  
1168 throughout Central and Southeast Ohio are being connected  
1169 quickly, but that all Americans will be too.

1170 Cable companies in Ohio and across the nation are  
1171 leading the way in building out new broadband networks  
1172 throughout rural America be it through the FCC's Rural  
1173 Digital Opportunity Fund or seeing the Broadband Equity  
1174 Access and Deployment Program.

1175 I was happy to see that my bill, the Cable Leadership  
1176 Act, is included in this amendment. My bill is simple. It  
1177 puts 120-day shot clock on cable franchising authorities to  
1178 grant or deny a new cable franchise when an operator wants to  
1179 move into a new community.

1180 The operators want to serve new homes and businesses.  
1181 We can't let them be bogged down with countless applications  
1182 and approvals. We need to ensure that we keep the process  
1183 moving so the networks can be built out. These package of

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1184 bills does just that.

1185 I appreciate the Chair moving this package forward here  
1186 today and urge my colleagues to vote yes. I yield back.

1187 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields back.

1188 Are there other members wishing to speak, recognition on  
1189 the AINS?

1190 Hearing none -- does the gentleman have an amendment on  
1191 the AINS?

1192 \*Mr. Pallone. I have an amendment at the desk. Amend  
1193 TDI 1.

1194 [The amendment of Mr. Pallone follows:]

1195

1196 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

1197

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1198           \*The Clerk. The amendment to the amendment in the  
1199 nature of a substitute to H.R. 3291 offered by Mr. Pallone.

1200           Page 12, strike line 25 and all that follows --

1201           \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the reading of the  
1202 amendment is dispensed with and the amendment is open at this  
1203 point and the gentleman is recognized for five minutes to  
1204 speak on his amendment.

1205           \*Mr. Pallone. Thank you, Chairman Latta.

1206           My amendment aims to ensure permitting agencies, at the  
1207 federal, state, and local levels retain the authority to make  
1208 decision that best suits the needs of our communities and the  
1209 public.

1210           No matter where you go in this country, if you want to  
1211 do any type of construction you must first get relevant  
1212 approvals from local government. Whether you are building a  
1213 house or a school, putting up utility poles, or digging a  
1214 trench to lay fiber optic cable, the local government has an  
1215 important role to play, primarily to ensure the health and  
1216 safety of the community.

1217           And that is why I am troubled by provisions like those  
1218 that my Republican colleagues are so fervently pursuing to

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1219 enact now and arbitrary timeframes to approve or deny  
1220 applications and then say permission granted if a decision  
1221 hasn't been made by that time.

1222 In other words, if a municipal zoning board or planning  
1223 board was reviewing an application and does not issue an  
1224 approval by a deadline set by House Republicans the  
1225 applicant's proposal would automatically be considered  
1226 approved without any further input from the community.

1227 And I am most concerned that this approach raises more  
1228 questions than answers, especially when it comes to liability  
1229 in the case of accidents.

1230 Now, my colleagues like to demonize local governments,  
1231 that is my Republican colleagues, like to demonize local  
1232 governments for not approving applications as quickly as they  
1233 would like, but anyone who served at the local level, and I  
1234 have, knows there is a lot more to these decisions than a  
1235 simply yes or no.

1236 No one thinks about who is responsible for ensuring  
1237 there is ample police or fire department personnel for  
1238 traffic duty, to ensure the safety of the workers and public  
1239 during construction, or the complexity of stacking or

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1240 staggering certain construction projects to avoid disruptions  
1241 or delays that can often and do occur as a result.

1242       It is the mayors, and councils, and planning boards, and  
1243 zoning boards who are responsible for these considerations.  
1244 And they are on the hook if anything goes wrong or someone  
1245 gets hurt.

1246       Now, I understand that my Republicans don't think that  
1247 that is their problem, but those of us that work closely with  
1248 our mayors and councils know that they are as eager as anyone  
1249 to have high-speed broadband access in their communities.

1250       What possible advantage would come from deliberately  
1251 ignoring or delaying requests to improve services for their  
1252 constituents?

1253       So these provisions can put people at risk. If you  
1254 don't believe me, I challenge each of my colleagues to tell  
1255 their mayors about this bill and these provisions the next  
1256 time they go home.

1257       I know that I wouldn't want to tell them that I voted  
1258 for this. So I guess what the Republican majority is trying  
1259 to do is to use these provisions to force permitting agencies  
1260 to work faster to avoid automatic grant of permission.



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1261           But as I said in my opening statement, the Majority is  
1262 demanding more and more of all these agencies, while, at the  
1263 same time, defunding them. So again, I don't want to just  
1264 beat you up too much, but I mean, the bottom line is, you  
1265 can't expect that all these things are done quickly without  
1266 there being problems.

1267           And I know when I go home on the weekends, I see all  
1268 kinds of construction all over and I mean, it is not easy to  
1269 make sure you have the police and who are we to be telling  
1270 the local planning boards and zoning boards what to do? We  
1271 don't spend the time reviewing these things and looking into  
1272 the details of it.

1273           And so we shouldn't be the ones telling them what to do  
1274 because they are the ones that actually have to look at this  
1275 and figure out what is the best way to handle it.

1276           So to me, it is pretty bad that you just think it is  
1277 okay to ride roughshod over all the local officials and  
1278 planning boards and everybody just to do what you think is  
1279 necessary.

1280           So I encourage all of my colleagues to stand with their  
1281 local governments by supporting this amendment, just from a

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1282 practical point of view. And I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

1283 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields back.

1284 Are there any members wishing to speak on the amendment?

1285 \*Mr. Allen. Mr. Chairman?

1286 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman from Georgia recognized.

1287 \*Mr. Allen. I move to strike the last word.

1288 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized for five

1289 minutes to strike the last word.

1290 \*Mr. Allen. With 42 billion ready to go out the door

1291 for broadband deployment, we have to provide accountability

1292 on agencies and certainty to providers whether or not they

1293 will get their permits approved.

1294 Delays in the permitting process have the potential to

1295 ruin the success of connecting all Americans and we cannot

1296 risk more money wasted.

1297 Here the Democrats are trying to strike deemed grant

1298 remedies created in this bill to ensure that state and local

1299 governments act within their review times.

1300 What is interesting is that some of the deemed grant

1301 remedies that they are trying to strike were first enacted by

1302 the Democrats. Deemed grant remedies are not new. One

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1303 already exists when state and local governments fail to act  
1304 on an eligible facilities request within 60 days.

1305         This was enacted in a bipartisan rulemaking implemented  
1306 by a Democratic FCC. When FCC Commissioner Rosenworcel and  
1307 Chairman Wheeler both praised the rules as balancing the need  
1308 to streamline the permitting process for the next generation  
1309 of wireless technology while preserving state and local  
1310 authority.

1311         Commissioner Rosenworcel speaking about the FCC's order,  
1312 "that because rules were put in place, they are first steps  
1313 to encourage deployment of infrastructure that is absolutely  
1314 critical for the next generation of wireless service, 5G''.

1315         Chairman Wheeler, speaking about the FCC's order, "high  
1316 speed mobile broadband also requires high-speed mobile  
1317 buildout''. However, the regulatory burdens associated with  
1318 deployments can be expensive and time consuming.

1319         This order takes concrete steps to immediately and  
1320 substantially ease those burdens. Mr. Carter's amendment  
1321 applies the same reasoning to other requests to deploy new,  
1322 fixed, and mobile communications infrastructure.

1323         Mr. Carter's amendment also broadens the deemed grants

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1324 to apply to federal agencies, which is necessary in order to  
1325 ensure that the timeline requirements in the Infrastructure  
1326 Law are met and the billions of dollars ready to be spent on  
1327 deployment are not wasted.

1328 For that reason, I will oppose this amendment and urge  
1329 my colleagues to vote no, and I yield back.

1330 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you very much. The gentleman yields  
1331 back the balance of his time.

1332 Are there others wishing to speak on the gentleman's  
1333 amendment to the AINS?

1334 Hearing none, is there any further discussion, if not  
1335 the vote occurs on the amendment.

1336 The gentleman requests a recorded vote. The clerk will  
1337 call the roll.

1338 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis?

1339 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes yes.

1340 \*The Clerk. Bilirakis votes aye.

1341 Walberg?

1342 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman wishes to be recognized?

1343 \*Mr. Bilirakis. I'm sorry, Bilirakis votes no.

1344 \*Mr. Latta. Bilirakis is off aye, on no.

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1345 Walberg?  
1346 \*Mr. Walberg. No.  
1347 \*The Clerk. Walberg votes no.  
1348 Carter?  
1349 \*Mr. Carter. No.  
1350 \*The Clerk. Carter votes no.  
1351 Dunn?  
1352 Curtis?  
1353 \*Mr. Curtis. No.  
1354 \*The Clerk. Curtis votes no.  
1355 Joyce?  
1356 \*Mr. Joyce. No.  
1357 \*The Clerk. Joyce votes no.  
1358 Weber?  
1359 \*Mr. Weber. No.  
1360 \*The Clerk. Weber votes no.  
1361 Allen?  
1362 \*Mr. Allen. Allen votes no.  
1363 \*The Clerk. Allen votes no.  
1364 Balderson?  
1365 \*Mr. Balderson. No.

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1366           \*The Clerk. Balderson votes no.  
1367           Fulcher?  
1368           \*Mr. Fulcher. No.  
1369           \*The Clerk. Fulcher votes no.  
1370           Pfluger?  
1371           \*Mr. Pfluger. No.  
1372           \*The Clerk. Pfluger votes no.  
1373           Harshbarger?  
1374           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. No.  
1375           \*The Clerk. Harshbarger votes no.  
1376           Cammack?  
1377           \*Mrs. Cammack. No.  
1378           \*The Clerk. Cammack votes no.  
1379           Obermolte?  
1380           \*Mr. Obermolte. No.  
1381           \*The Clerk. Obermolte votes no.  
1382           Rodgers?  
1383           \*The Chair. No.  
1384           \*The Clerk. Rodgers votes no.  
1385           Latta?  
1386           \*Mr. Latta. No.

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1387           \*The Clerk. Latta votes no.  
1388           Matsui?  
1389           \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.  
1390           \*The Clerk. Matsui votes aye.  
1391           Clarke?  
1392           \*Ms. Clarke. Aye.  
1393           \*The Clerk. Clarke votes aye.  
1394           Veasey?  
1395           \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
1396           \*The Clerk. Veasey votes aye.  
1397           Soto?  
1398           \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
1399           \*The Clerk. Soto votes aye.  
1400           Eshoo?  
1401           \*Ms. Eshoo. Aye.  
1402           \*The Clerk. Eshoo votes aye.  
1403           Cardenas?  
1404           \*Mr. Cardenas. Aye.  
1405           \*The Clerk. Cardenas votes aye.  
1406           Craig?  
1407           \*Ms. Craig. Aye.

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1408           \*The Clerk. Craig votes aye.  
1409           Fletcher?  
1410           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.  
1411           \*The Clerk. Fletcher votes aye.  
1412           Dingell?  
1413           \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.  
1414           \*The Clerk. Dingell votes aye.  
1415           Kuster?  
1416           \*Ms. Kuster. Aye.  
1417           \*The Clerk. Kuster votes aye.  
1418           Kelly?  
1419           \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.  
1420           \*The Clerk. Kelly votes aye.  
1421           Pallone?  
1422           \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.  
1423           \*The Clerk. Pallone votes aye.  
1424           \*Mr. Latta. Has the gentleman from Florida recorded?  
1425           \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn has not recorded.  
1426           \*Mr. Dunn. Nay.  
1427           \*The Clerk. Dunn votes no.  
1428           \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to



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1429 record their vote?

1430 Hearing none, the clerk will report the result.

1431 \*The Clerk. Chair Latta, on that vote, we have 12 ayes  
1432 and 16 noes.

1433 \*Mr. Latta. The amendment is not agreed to.

1434 Are there further amendments?

1435 The gentleman from California seeks recognition.

1436 Why does the gentleman seek recognition?

1437 \*Mr. Cardenas. I have an amendment at the desk,  
1438 amendment TD1.

1439 \*Mr. Latta. The clerk will report the amendment --

1440 \*Mr. Cardenas. I'm sorry, TD3. I'm sorry, we just did  
1441 TD1. TD3.

1442 [The amendment of Mr. Cardenas follows:]

1443

1444 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

1445

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1446           \*The Clerk. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of  
1447 a substitute to H.R. 3291 offered by Mr. Cardenas, page 48,  
1448 after line 3 --

1449           \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the reading of the  
1450 amendment is dispensed with and the gentleman is recognized  
1451 for five minutes on his amendment.

1452           \*Mr. Cardenas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Appreciate  
1453 this opportunity to provide this amendment.

1454           As Ranking Member Pallone just pointed out, the AINS  
1455 before us puts a lot of restrictions and requirements on  
1456 state and local governments to crunch permit applications by  
1457 deadlines set by my Republican colleagues.

1458           My amendment does not speak to those requirements, but  
1459 rather, would offer resources for state and local offices to  
1460 carry out the federal mandates proposed by some of the  
1461 members of this Subcommittee.

1462           At our hearing last month, witnesses spoke at length  
1463 about how a lack of qualified personnel and financial  
1464 resources at offices reviewing applications can cause delays  
1465 in getting projects approved.

1466           I fundamentally disagree with the idea that local

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1467 officials are somehow unwilling or unmotivated to approve  
1468 projects to deploy or improve communications infrastructure  
1469 in their local communities.

1470         The arbitrary timelines laid out by my colleagues are  
1471 unlikely to make a real difference in deploying broadband and  
1472 wireless infrastructure any faster.

1473         My amendment, however, would help speed up permit  
1474 reviews and get more projects approved in less time by  
1475 providing state and local governments with the resources they  
1476 need to handle the influx of applications that we know are  
1477 coming.

1478         We should be treating local governments as our partners  
1479 in these efforts, not our opponents. And also, let's come  
1480 together and take meaningful action to break down these  
1481 deployment barriers.

1482         I think it is important to understand that I am a little  
1483 confused today because a lot of times my Republican  
1484 colleagues say that Washington should not dictate what  
1485 happens locally. We have local officials and local appointed  
1486 officials that are actually responsible for what goes on in  
1487 their local communities.

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1488 I know when I was a city councilman in Los Angeles, any  
1489 time we were improving our streets or what have you, we got  
1490 complaints saying who the heck is making it harder for me to  
1491 get to work? Why is it that those barriers make me go in a  
1492 different direction, et cetera?

1493 That is why local officials are there so that they can  
1494 know exactly what is going on on the ground, plan it  
1495 properly, but all of that takes resources. Sometimes it does  
1496 take more time, but then again, my amendment says, you know  
1497 what, let's help them do their job well and do it quickly.  
1498 Providing some of the resources should this federal mandate  
1499 actually become law.

1500 So with that I urge my colleagues to support my  
1501 amendment and I yield back the balance of my time.

1502 \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you very much. The gentleman  
1503 yields back.

1504 Are there any other members seeking recognition?

1505 \*Mr. Curtis. Mr. Chairman?

1506 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman from Utah seeks recognition?

1507 \*Mr. Curtis. Seek to strike the last word.

1508 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman's request to speak to strike

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1509 the last word and the gentleman is recognized for five  
1510 minutes.

1511 \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you. At the risk of my colleagues  
1512 on this Committee getting tired of hearing the fact that I am  
1513 a former mayor, as a former mayor I would like to weigh in.

1514 And not only a former mayor, but a mayor who had  
1515 broadband deployed throughout his city to every single home,  
1516 and every single residence and I am just going to brag for a  
1517 minute as well. The city of Provo offered internet to every  
1518 single resident at no cost.

1519 And we did that not through municipal broadband, but by  
1520 bringing in an outside provider. I do want to point out that  
1521 state and local governments have never had remedy from the  
1522 federal government and, specifically, to deploy local  
1523 broadband.

1524 Since the beginning of COVID-19 pandemic, state and  
1525 local governments across the country received hundreds of  
1526 millions of billions of dollars. The vast majority of state  
1527 and local governments are, I think, as those that were  
1528 talking about, do a great job in processing those permits in  
1529 a timely manner and they don't issue the permits in a way to

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1530 extract revenue from broadband provider, but rather, as a  
1531 necessary cost of providing that service.

1532 Under our bill, state and local governments would retain  
1533 the ability to charge fees for reviewing permitting  
1534 applications. The only difference is that we would require  
1535 those fees be based on actual and direct cost and they would  
1536 have to be transparent with those costs.

1537 This means that the local government can't just jack up  
1538 the cost to pay for other improvements in their city, which  
1539 happens often in local government. It means that they can't  
1540 use revenue from excessive fees to subsidize other parts of  
1541 the government.

1542 I oppose the amendment and urge my colleagues to vote  
1543 no, and I yield back my time.

1544 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields back the  
1545 balance of his time.

1546 Are there other --

1547 \*Mr. Curtis. Sure, if I still have my time?

1548 \*Mr. Latta. Since the gentleman's time and he yields to  
1549 the gentlelady.

1550 \*Ms. Eshoo. Thank you. I appreciate it. Mr. Curtis,

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1551 you are such a lovely man. Really are.

1552 \*Mr. Curtis. I hear a butt coming.

1553 \*Ms. Eshoo. Yeah, you do. You do. I know you get it.

1554 You get it, but you are lovely. You are a lovely man; you

1555 are a gentleman.

1556 This whole issue of local jurisdictions and the

1557 discussion that we are having as we move through this markup.

1558 I have to tell you is a real rub for me.

1559 You know, what works in one community maybe won't work

1560 in another, but just because there is a project or an effort

1561 that, for whatever reason, has failed in the community and

1562 the entire nation has to bear the burden of that failure, I

1563 don't think that is fair.

1564 So while I certainly have had community broadband

1565 efforts in my congressional district, I would certainly say

1566 to them, look into the one in Utah and see what went wrong

1567 there so that mistakes are not made here, but to hold all

1568 these local jurisdictions hostage over something that didn't

1569 go right in another, I just feel very uncomfortable.

1570 So those are my uncomfortable words to a lovely man.

1571 \*Mr. Curtis. Your lovely co-companion who I also admire

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1572 and respect. Just a couple of thoughts. I also served on  
1573 American Public Powers national policy board where we saw  
1574 dozens and, perhaps, hundreds of cities also try the same  
1575 thing.

1576 I also have other cities in Utah who have tried the same  
1577 thing. So it doesn't come lightly and doesn't come just as  
1578 one city. I actually would really welcome additional  
1579 dialogue with you about this and may take you up on this  
1580 comment sometimes that we shouldn't apply a one size fits all  
1581 from Washington.

1582 I think that actually applies in quite a few situations.  
1583 I think otherwise, I would love to have further discussion  
1584 with you about how to move forward. Thank you. I yield my  
1585 time.

1586 \*Mr. Latta. I thank the gentleman. He yields back.

1587 Are there any other members seeking recognition to speak  
1588 on the gentleman from California's amendment?

1589 Hearing none, it has been requested for a roll call  
1590 vote. The clerk will call the role.

1591 All those in favor, will signify by saying aye.

1592 And those opposed, nay.



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1593           \*The Clerk.   Bilirakis?  
1594           Walberg?  
1595           \*Mr. Walberg.   Nay.  
1596           \*The Clerk.   Walberg votes no.  
1597           Carter?  
1598           \*Mr. Carter.   No.  
1599           \*The Clerk.   Carter votes no.  
1600           Dunn?  
1601           \*Mr. Dunn.    No.  
1602           \*The Clerk.   Dunn votes no.  
1603           Curtis?  
1604           \*Mr. Curtis.   No.  
1605           \*The Clerk.   Curtis votes no.  
1606           Joyce?  
1607           \*Mr. Joyce.   No.  
1608           \*The Clerk.   Joyce votes no.  
1609           Weber?  
1610           \*Mr. Weber.   No.  
1611           \*The Clerk.   Weber votes no.  
1612           Allen?  
1613           \*Mr. Allen.   No.

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1614           \*The Clerk. Allen votes no.  
1615           Balderson?  
1616           \*Mr. Balderson. No.  
1617           \*The Clerk. Balderson votes no.  
1618           Fulcher?  
1619           \*Mr. Fulcher. No.  
1620           \*The Clerk. Fulcher votes no.  
1621           Pfluger?  
1622           \*Mr. Pfluger. No.  
1623           \*The Clerk. Pfluger votes no.  
1624           Harshbarger?  
1625           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. No.  
1626           \*The Clerk. Harshbarger votes no.  
1627           Cammack?  
1628           \*Mrs. Cammack. No.  
1629           \*The Clerk. Cammack votes no.  
1630           Oberholte?  
1631           \*Mr. Oberholte. No.  
1632           \*The Clerk. Oberholte votes no.  
1633           Rodgers?  
1634           \*The Chair. No.

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1635           \*The Clerk.  Rodgers votes no.  
1636           Latta?  
1637           \*Mr. Latta.  No.  
1638           \*The Clerk.  Latta votes no.  
1639           Matsui?  
1640           \*Ms. Matsui.  Aye.  
1641           \*The Clerk.  Matsui votes aye.  
1642           Clarke?  
1643           \*Ms. Clarke.  Aye.  
1644           \*The Clerk.  Clarke votes aye.  
1645           Veasey?  
1646           \*Mr. Veasey.  Aye.  
1647           \*The Clerk.  Veasey votes aye.  
1648           Soto?  
1649           \*Mr. Soto.  Aye.  
1650           \*The Clerk.  Soto votes aye.  
1651           Eshoo?  
1652           \*Ms. Eshoo.  Aye.  
1653           \*The Clerk.  Eshoo votes aye.  
1654           Cardenas?  
1655           \*Mr. Cardenas.  Aye.

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1656           \*The Clerk. Cardenas votes aye.  
1657           Craig?  
1658           \*Ms. Craig. Aye.  
1659           \*The Clerk. Craig votes aye.  
1660           Fletcher?  
1661           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.  
1662           \*The Clerk. Fletcher votes aye.  
1663           Dingell?  
1664           \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.  
1665           \*The Clerk. Dingell votes aye.  
1666           Kuster?  
1667           \*Ms. Kuster. Aye.  
1668           \*The Clerk. Kuster votes aye.  
1669           Kelly?  
1670           \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.  
1671           \*The Clerk. Kelly votes aye.  
1672           Pallone?  
1673           \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.  
1674           \*The Clerk. Pallone votes aye.  
1675           Mr. Bilirakis is not recorded.  
1676           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes no.

**This is an unedited transcript. The statements within may be inaccurate, incomplete, or misattributed to the speaker.**

1677           \*The Clerk.   Bilirakis votes no.

1678           \*Mr. Latta.   Are there any other members wishing to cast  
1679 their vote?

1680           Hearing none, the clerk will take the roll.

1681           \*The Clerk.   Chair Latta, on that vote we have 12 ayes  
1682 and 16 noes.

1683           \*Mr. Latta.   Thank you very much, the amendment is not  
1684 agreed to.

1685           Are there further amendments to the AINS?

1686           The gentleman from Texas is recognized.   Why do you seek  
1687 recognition?

1688           \*Mr. Veasey.   Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
1689 desk.   My amendment is titled DSC Amendment 4.

1690           \*Mr. Latta.   The clerk will report the amendment.

1691           \*The Clerk.   Amendment to the amendment in the nature of  
1692 a substitute to H.R. 3291 authored by Mr. Veasey, strike  
1693 Section 402 --

1694           \*Mr. Latta.   Without objection, the reading of the  
1695 amendment is dispensed with and the gentleman is recognized  
1696 for five minutes to speak on his amendment.

1697           [The amendment of Mr. Veasey as follows:]

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1698

1699 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

1700

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1701           \*Mr. Veasey. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1702           Many of my Republican colleagues have expressed a desire  
1703 to tackle these permitting issues close to the digital divide  
1704 and get broadband funding out of the door to our states  
1705 quickly and efficiently.

1706           But there is one section in this majority AINS that I  
1707 fear would have the opposite effect and potentially prevent  
1708 many states from getting any BEAD funding at all.

1709           And my amendment would strike Section 402 of the  
1710 amendment in the nature of a substitute language previously  
1711 introduced as BEAD Fees Act.

1712           Far from getting funding out in a quick and efficient  
1713 way, that language would actually prohibit NTIA from giving  
1714 BEAD funding to any state unless the state's legislature has  
1715 an active legislation that spells out all of the requirements  
1716 of this section.

1717           You heard that right. Any state, across the country,  
1718 with a fee structure that doesn't match up exactly with what  
1719 the Majority is proposing in this section, wouldn't get  
1720 another dime of BEAD funding.

1721           Indeed, NTIA would be prohibited by this law from

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1722 sending those states the funds allocated to them. In my home  
1723 state of Texas, for instance, the state legislature only has  
1724 a few more days until they sign (inaudible) and they won't  
1725 begin session again until January 2025.

1726           And so if the Majority's provision is enacted, it would  
1727 mean that Texas would have to stand by and watch while other  
1728 states broadband projects are funded. I am not willing to  
1729 jeopardize the millions or potentially billions of dollars  
1730 that our state is set to receive and I am surprised that the  
1731 Majority wants to risk their states from receiving these  
1732 funds.

1733           It certainly injects a lot of uncertainty into this  
1734 historic funding opportunity. It doesn't mention a process  
1735 for approving such legislation as on the books or what  
1736 happens if a state thinks if the requirements have been met,  
1737 but the Assistant Secretary does not.

1738           I would urge all of my colleagues who, like me, are also  
1739 not interested in denying their constituents a once in a  
1740 lifetime opportunity for broadband infrastructure funding to  
1741 support my amendment that strikes this language, because  
1742 again, let's be clear, a vote for the Majority's package with



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1743 this harmful language in Section 402, is a vote against your  
1744 state receiving BEAD dollars in a timely and efficient  
1745 manner.

1746 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I urge a yes vote on my  
1747 amendment and I yield back.

1748 \*Mr. Latta. All right. I thank the gentleman and the  
1749 gentleman yields back.

1750 Are there any members wishing to speak on the  
1751 gentleman's amendment?

1752 The gentleman from Ohio seeks recognition. Why does the  
1753 gentleman seek recognition?

1754 \*Mr. Balderson. Speaking in opposition to the  
1755 amendment.

1756 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized to speak on the  
1757 amendment for five minutes.

1758 \*Mr. Balderson. Mr. Chairman, thank you.

1759 Mr. Chairman, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act  
1760 provided record funding for broadband programs for the  
1761 purpose of closing the digital divide, deploying broadband  
1762 infrastructure, and awarding these funds will take  
1763 cooperation from all the levels of government.

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1764           We all know that the vast majority of state and local  
1765 governments do a great job at processing permit requests in a  
1766 timely manner and do not use the process as a means to  
1767 extract extra revenues, but the fact of this matter is that  
1768 some do.

1769           The modern (inaudible) under Mr. Carter's amendment  
1770 state and local governments would retain the ability to  
1771 charge fees for reviewing permitting applications, the only  
1772 difference here is that we would require those fees to be  
1773 based on the direct cost and they would need to be  
1774 transparent.

1775           This ensures that local governments can't be bad actors  
1776 and increase the cost of an application to subsidize  
1777 contractors of the local government's choosing.

1778           In fact, even the Biden Administration agrees with this  
1779 in their notice of funding opportunity NITA, asks states to  
1780 look at the ways to cap their fees. Requiring cost base and  
1781 transparent fees will ensure that our historic investment is  
1782 not wasted and meets the goal of connecting every American.

1783           I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment and  
1784 Mr. Chairman, I yield back my remaining time.

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1785 \*Mr. Dunn. Will the gentleman his back?

1786 \*Mr. Balderson. Yes, I yield my time.

1787 \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized.

1788 \*Mr. Dunn. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
1789 the last word?

1790 \*Mr. Latta. (Inaudible).

1791 \*Mr. Dunn. I want to reiterate the (inaudible) of this  
1792 bill, 3291, as amended by Mr. Carter.

1793 I would like to start by thanking the Chair for his  
1794 leadership in this role and the work we are doing is  
1795 critically important to toll the charge public and private  
1796 investment to promote and upgrade infrastructure and boost  
1797 American competitiveness.

1798 Streamlining the permitting process is critically  
1799 important. The urgency with which we come to the aid of our  
1800 communities when devastating disasters occur is especially  
1801 important.

1802 My friend and colleague Mr. Bilirakis has introduced  
1803 H.R. 3301, the Connecting Communities Post-Disasters Act and  
1804 my bill has been incorporated into Mr. Carter's amendment as  
1805 well, the 3291.

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1806           This bill would slash burdensome requirements in order  
1807 to accelerate replacing and improving communications  
1808 facilities that were damaged following presidentially  
1809 declared disasters.

1810           Now, we are all aware of the Stafford Act disasters are  
1811 just catastrophic events that include hurricanes, tornadoes,  
1812 and the like. It must rise to the level of warranting  
1813 federal aid by the direction of the President.

1814           And as an example, we have Hurricane Michael, a storm  
1815 that devastated the Florida Panhandle and Georgia. It left a  
1816 lot of my counties with no communications for up to two  
1817 weeks.

1818           There are a few things worse than being unable to check  
1819 on your loved ones following a disaster. One of my biggest  
1820 takeaways from Hurricane Michael is the burdensome  
1821 regulations that stood in the way of rebuilding our  
1822 communications infrastructure.

1823           Our bill has been incorporated into this package to  
1824 ensure that all of our constituents have streamlined process  
1825 to rebuild critical communications infrastructure following a  
1826 devastating natural disaster.

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1827 I encourage all of my colleagues to support Mr. Carter's  
1828 bill. Thank you and I yield back.

1829 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentleman yields. The  
1830 gentleman from Ohio yields back the balance of his time.

1831 Are there any other members wishing to speak on the  
1832 gentleman from Texas amendment?

1833 Hearing none, roll call has been requested. The clerk  
1834 will take the roll.

1835 \*The Clerk. Bilirakis?

1836 Walberg?

1837 \*Mr. Walberg. No.

1838 \*The Clerk. Walberg votes no.

1839 Carter?

1840 \*Mr. Carter. No.

1841 \*The Clerk. Carter votes no.

1842 Dunn?

1843 \*Mr. Dunn. No.

1844 \*The Clerk. Dunn votes no.

1845 Curtis?

1846 \*Mr. Curtis. No.

1847 \*The Clerk. Curtis votes no.

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1848 Joyce?  
1849 \*Mr. Joyce. No.  
1850 \*The Clerk. Joyce votes no.  
1851 Weber?  
1852 \*Mr. Weber. Nope.  
1853 \*The Clerk. Weber votes no.  
1854 Allen? Allen?  
1855 \*Mr. Allen. Allen votes no.  
1856 \*The Clerk. Allen votes no.  
1857 Balderson?  
1858 \*Mr. Balderson. No.  
1859 \*The Clerk. Balderson votes no.  
1860 Fulcher?  
1861 \*Mr. Fulcher. No.  
1862 \*The Clerk. Fulcher votes no.  
1863 Pfluger?  
1864 \*Mr. Pfluger. No.  
1865 \*The Clerk. Pfluger votes no.  
1866 Harshbarger?  
1867 \*Mrs. Harshbarger. No.  
1868 \*The Clerk. Harshbarger votes no.

**This is an unedited transcript. The statements within may be inaccurate, incomplete, or misattributed to the speaker.**

1869 Cammack?  
1870 \*Mrs. Cammack. No.  
1871 \*The Clerk. Cammack votes no.  
1872 Obernolte?  
1873 \*Mr. Obernolte. No.  
1874 \*The Clerk. Obernolte votes no.  
1875 Rodgers?  
1876 \*The Chair. No.  
1877 \*The Clerk. Rodgers votes no.  
1878 Latta?  
1879 \*Mr. Latta. No.  
1880 \*The Clerk. Latta votes no.  
1881 Matsui?  
1882 \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.  
1883 \*The Clerk. Matsui votes aye.  
1884 Clarke?  
1885 \*Ms. Clarke. Aye.  
1886 \*The Clerk. Clarke votes aye.  
1887 Veasey?  
1888 \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
1889 \*The Clerk. Veasey votes aye.

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1890 Soto?  
1891 \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
1892 \*The Clerk. Soto votes aye.  
1893 Eshoo?  
1894 \*Ms. Eshoo. Aye.  
1895 \*The Clerk. Eshoo votes aye.  
1896 Cardenas?  
1897 \*Mr. Cardenas. Aye.  
1898 \*The Clerk. Cardenas votes aye.  
1899 Craig?  
1900 \*Ms. Craig. Yes.  
1901 \*The Clerk. Craig votes aye.  
1902 Fletcher?  
1903 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Aye.  
1904 \*The Clerk. Fletcher votes aye.  
1905 Dingell?  
1906 \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.  
1907 \*The Clerk. Dingell votes aye.  
1908 Kuster?  
1909 \*Ms. Kuster. Aye.  
1910 \*The Clerk. Kuster votes aye.



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1911 Kelly?

1912 \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.

1913 \*The Clerk. Kelly votes aye.

1914 Pallone?

1915 \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.

1916 \*The Clerk. Pallone votes aye.

1917 Mr. Bilirakis is not recorded.

1918 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes no.

1919 \*The Clerk. Bilirakis votes no.

1920 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you.

1921 \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to

1922 record their vote on the amendment?

1923 Hearing none, the clerk will take the roll.

1924 \*The Clerk. Chair Latta, on that vote we have 12 ayes

1925 and 16 noes.

1926 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you, the amendment is not agreed to.

1927 Are there further amendments?

1928 The ranking member, the gentlelady from California is

1929 recognized for five minutes. And why does the gentlelady

1930 seek recognition?

1931 \*Ms. Matsui. I have an amendment at the desk.

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1932           \*Mr. Latta. The clerk will report the amendment.  
1933           \*Ms. Matsui. It is Amendment 01 or 01.  
1934           \*The Clerk. To clarify, it is Matsui\_amendment\_01?  
1935           \*Ms. Matsui. Yes.  
1936           \*The Clerk. Thank you.  
1937           An amendment to the amendment in the nature of a  
1938 substitute to H.R. 3291 offered by Ms. Matsui. Page 84, line  
1939 18 --  
1940           \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the reading of the  
1941 amendment is dispensed with and the gentlelady is recognized  
1942 for five minutes to speak on her amendment.  
1943           [The amendment of Ms. Matsui follows:]  
1944  
1945           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*  
1946

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1947           \*Ms. Matsui. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1948           I am offering this amendment today to make a  
1949 clarification that I think all members of the Subcommittee  
1950 can agree upon in principle, which is that any unobligated  
1951 funding may, in the trusted communications networks  
1952 reimbursement program, shall remain available to rip and  
1953 replace Chinese gear from their networks.

1954           While I understand that desire to repurpose certain  
1955 unspent funds, I am worried that a blanket rescission would  
1956 undermine FCC efforts that are essential to national  
1957 security.

1958           This is not an abstract concern. According to the FCC  
1959 itself, there are unobligated funds in the program that could  
1960 be jeopardized by this bill. That shouldn't be the case and  
1961 this amendment will help.

1962           I was the original co-sponsor of the Rip and Replace  
1963 Bill that Congress passed and funded on a bipartisan basis.  
1964 We achieved success with that bill because members of both  
1965 parties recognized that allowing Chinese network gear to  
1966 handle our healthcare, financial, and personal data is simply  
1967 unacceptable.

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1968           This gear is disproportionately deployed in rural  
1969 networks. I for one do not think we should be putting rip  
1970 and replace activities in those areas at risk. We made a  
1971 good downpayment on Rip and Replace, but there is still more  
1972 to do.

1973           All of us on the Subcommittee know that we are facing a  
1974 \$3 billion funding shortfall. From the national security  
1975 threat alone, but especially in light of that funding  
1976 shortfall, I think it is important to clarify that these  
1977 funds are protected.

1978           This is about keeping funding at the FCC where it is  
1979 needed most, addressing an immediate national security  
1980 threat.

1981           So I hope members on this Subcommittee will support this  
1982 amendment. I think it is in line with our bipartisan vision  
1983 for Rip and Replace and encourage members to support this.

1984           With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

1985           \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you very much. The gentlelady  
1986 yields back and the Chair recognizes himself for five minutes  
1987 to speak in opposition to the amendment.

1988           The Democrats had ample time to review this legislation.

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1989 This Congress Republicans reached out to discuss this package  
1990 of bills in February. In April, the Subcommittee held a  
1991 legislative hearing with discussion (inaudible) each piece of  
1992 legislation.

1993 Unfortunately, the Democrats rejected this outreach and  
1994 declined to work with us on all the bills included in this  
1995 amendment, to include their edits. While we would have loved  
1996 to have worked with you on this concern, we only received  
1997 notice of this amendment just a few hours ago.

1998 This amendment is also disclaimed because securing our  
1999 networks is a bipartisan concern that all we share. The  
2000 Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act establishes a  
2001 reimbursement program to remove Huawei, ZTE, and other  
2002 equipment that poses a threat to our national security.

2003 This law was bipartisan, as was the Secure Equipment Act  
2004 that expanded these prohibitions on untrusted gear to all  
2005 parts of our communications networks. While we are working  
2006 hand and glove to fund the shortfall in Rip and Replace  
2007 funding, we must also ensure that the replacement of this  
2008 equipment is done expeditiously.

2009 We cannot delay removing this equipment and duplicating

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2010 environmental reviews for existing infrastructure that could  
2011 slow down removal of this national security threat  
2012 (inaudible). This amendment could slow down removal on  
2013 trusted Chinese equipment in our networks and I urge my  
2014 colleagues to oppose the gentlelady's amendment.

2015 Are there any other members wishing to speak on the  
2016 gentlelady's amendment?

2017 Hearing none, the gentlelady has requested a roll call  
2018 vote. The clerk will take the roll.

2019 \*The Clerk. Bilirakis?

2020 Walberg?

2021 \*Mr. Walberg. No.

2022 \*The Clerk. Walberg votes no.

2023 Carter?

2024 \*Mr. Carter. No.

2025 \*The Clerk. Carter votes no.

2026 Dunn?

2027 \*Mr. Dunn. No.

2028 \*The Clerk. Dunn votes no.

2029 Curtis?

2030 \*Mr. Curtis. No.

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2031           \*The Clerk.   Curtis votes no.  
2032           Joyce?  
2033           \*Mr. Joyce.   No.  
2034           \*The Clerk.   Joyce votes no.  
2035           Weber?  
2036           \*Mr. Weber.   No.  
2037           \*The Clerk.   Weber votes no.  
2038           Allen?  
2039           \*Mr. Allen.   No.  
2040           \*The Clerk.   Allen votes no.  
2041           Balderson?  
2042           \*Mr. Balderson.   No.  
2043           \*The Clerk.   Balderson votes no.  
2044           Fulcher?  
2045           \*Mr. Fulcher.   No.  
2046           \*The Clerk.   Fulcher votes no.  
2047           Pfluger?  
2048           \*Mr. Pfluger.   No.  
2049           \*The Clerk.   Pfluger votes no.  
2050           Harshbarger?  
2051           \*Mrs. Harshbarger.   No.

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2052           \*The Clerk. Harshbarger votes no.  
2053           Cammack?  
2054           \*Mrs. Cammack. No.  
2055           \*The Clerk. Cammack votes no.  
2056           Oberholte?  
2057           \*Mr. Oberholte. No.  
2058           \*The Clerk. Oberholte votes no.  
2059           Rodgers?  
2060           \*The Chair. No.  
2061           \*The Clerk. Rodgers votes no.  
2062           Latta?  
2063           \*Mr. Latta. No.  
2064           \*The Clerk. Latta votes no.  
2065           Matsui?  
2066           \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.  
2067           \*The Clerk. Matsui votes aye.  
2068           Clarke?  
2069           \*Ms. Clarke. Aye.  
2070           \*The Clerk. Clarke votes aye.  
2071           Veasey?  
2072           Soto?



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2073           \*Mr. Soto.   Aye.  
2074           \*The Clerk.   Soto votes aye.  
2075           Eshoo?  
2076           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Aye.  
2077           \*The Clerk.   Eshoo votes aye.  
2078           Cardenas?  
2079           \*Mr. Cardenas.  Aye.  
2080           \*The Clerk.   Cardenas votes aye.  
2081           Craig?  
2082           \*Ms. Craig.   Yes.  
2083           \*The Clerk.   Craig votes aye.  
2084           Fletcher?  
2085           \*Mrs. Fletcher.  Aye.  
2086           \*The Clerk.   Fletcher votes aye.  
2087           Dingell?  
2088           \*Mrs. Dingell.  Aye.  
2089           \*The Clerk.   Dingell votes aye.  
2090           Kuster?  
2091           \*Ms. Kuster.   Aye.  
2092           \*The Clerk.   Kuster votes aye.  
2093           Kelly?

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2094 \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.

2095 \*The Clerk. Kelly votes aye.

2096 Pallone?

2097 \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.

2098 \*The Clerk. Pallone votes aye.

2099 Mr. Bilirakis is not recorded.

2100 \*Mr. Bilirakis. I vote no.

2101 \*The Clerk. Bilirakis votes no.

2102 \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to  
2103 record their vote?

2104 \*Mr. Veasey. How is my vote recorded?

2105 \*Mr. Latta. How is the gentleman from Texas recorded?

2106 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey is not recorded.

2107 \*Mr. Veasey. Mark me down as aye.

2108 \*The Clerk. Veasey votes aye.

2109 \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to  
2110 record?

2111 Hearing none, the clerk will take the roll.

2112 \*The Clerk. Chair Latta, on that vote we have 12 ayes  
2113 and 16 noes.

2114 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you very much, the amendment is not

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2115 agreed to.

2116 Are there other amendments to the bill?

2117 \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman?

2118 \*Mr. Latta. For what reason is the gentlelady seeking  
2119 recognition?

2120 \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
2121 desk. It is titled, "Amend TD4''.

2122 \*Mr. Latta. The clerk will report the amendment.

2123 \*The Clerk. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of  
2124 a substitute to H.R. 3291 offered by Ms. Clarke. Page 35  
2125 after line 3, insert the following --

2126 \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the reading of the  
2127 amendment is dispensed with.

2128 \*Ms. Clarke. My colleagues on this Committee --

2129 \*Mr. Latta. The gentlelady is recognized --

2130 \*Ms. Clarke. Oh, I'm sorry.

2131 \*Mr. Latta. -- for five minutes in order to speak on  
2132 her amendment.

2133 [The amendment of Ms. Clarke follows:]

2134

2135 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

2136

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2137           \*Ms. Clarke. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2138           My colleagues, on this Committee we have long recognized  
2139 that access to reliable high-speed internet is essential in  
2140 our increasing digital society.

2141           My amendment seeks to balance the benefits that the  
2142 Majority is attempting to hand out two providers with  
2143 obligations to ensure that no community or family is left  
2144 behind when infrastructure is being built.

2145           In our legislative hearing on these bills, we have heard  
2146 how efforts to streamline broadband deployment should be  
2147 balanced with the need to ensure that low-income and minority  
2148 communities, who are both subjected to both traditional and  
2149 digital redlining in the past, do not continue to be left  
2150 behind.

2151           The truth is that many of the communities that were  
2152 impacted by redlining decades ago, who were discriminated  
2153 against when seeking to apply for mortgage loans, continue to  
2154 suffer with inferior infrastructure and services today,  
2155 including lacking access to affordable and reliable  
2156 broadband.

2157           Unfortunately, our legislative hearing on these bills

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2158 have heard from experts that previous deregulatory efforts  
2159 did nothing to mitigate the digital redlining we see today.  
2160 In fact, deregulation may have made it worse.

2161 Instead, previous efforts to quote "streamline"  
2162 unquote, simply allow providers to perpetuate historic  
2163 discrimination against certain communities, while  
2164 facilitating buildout to wealthier communities where they  
2165 could make more money.

2166 My amendment would ensure that this current round of  
2167 streamlining does not become yet another giveaway to  
2168 companies seeking to pad their bottom line by not serving low  
2169 income and minority communities.

2170 Instead, my amendment would allow providers to take  
2171 advantage of the streamline processes that the Majority is  
2172 proposing, but only if the commit to serving every household  
2173 in their jurisdiction that is granting their permit.

2174 This will help all communities as we have seen  
2175 prioritize wealthy and easy to build to neighborhoods in  
2176 urban, rural, and suburban communities. Without such an  
2177 obligation, history is doomed to repeat itself and certain  
2178 communities will remain disconnect.

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2179           Therefore, our goals of getting affordable, reliable  
2180 broadband to every area of this country, goals that my  
2181 colleagues across the aisle claim to share, will be  
2182 perpetually frustrated.

2183           I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues  
2184 on this Committee to explore pathways to equitably streamline  
2185 permitting processes and bridge the digital divide and I urge  
2186 my colleagues to support my amendment and I thank you, Mr.  
2187 Chairman, and I yield back.

2188           \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back.

2189           Are there any members wishing to seek recognition on the  
2190 amendment?

2191           The vice chair of the Subcommittee, the gentleman from  
2192 Georgia seeks recognition. Why does this gentleman seek  
2193 recognition?

2194           \*Mr. Carter. I move to strike the last word.

2195           \*Mr. Latta. The gentleman is recognized to strike the  
2196 last word for five minutes.

2197           \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, if the Democrats wanted to  
2198 have a conversation about serving underserved areas, we would  
2199 have welcomed it.

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2200           Unfortunately, this amendment is poorly drafted. The  
2201 Biden Administration continues to move the goalpost on  
2202 defining what unserved areas mean. And it is unclear whether  
2203 this amendment could itself prohibit the deployment of  
2204 broadband.

2205           Rather than double down in encouraging investment so  
2206 that all Americans can be served, this amendment could have  
2207 the opposite effect. This amendment could also lead to less  
2208 competition in the marketplace if one provider is required to  
2209 serve all locations, even if another provider could serve  
2210 some locations more efficiently.

2211           This is an unserious amendment and I urge my colleagues  
2212 to vote not. And I yield back.

2213           \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you. The gentleman yields  
2214 back.

2215           Is there any further discussion on the gentlelady's  
2216 amendment from New York?

2217           Hearing none, a roll call vote has been requested by the  
2218 gentlelady from California, the ranking member.

2219           The clerk will call the yays and nays.

2220           \*The Clerk. Bilirakis?

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2221 \*Mr. Bilirakis. No.  
2222 \*The Clerk. Bilirakis votes no.  
2223 Walberg?  
2224 \*Mr. Walberg. No.  
2225 \*The Clerk. Walberg votes no.  
2226 Carter?  
2227 \*Mr. Carter. No.  
2228 \*The Clerk. Carter votes no.  
2229 Dunn?  
2230 \*Mr. Dunn. No.  
2231 \*The Clerk. Dunn votes no.  
2232 Curtis?  
2233 \*Mr. Curtis. No.  
2234 \*The Clerk. Curtis votes no.  
2235 Joyce?  
2236 \*Mr. Joyce. No.  
2237 \*The Clerk. Joyce votes no.  
2238 Weber?  
2239 Allen?  
2240 Balderson?  
2241 \*Mr. Balderson. No.



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2242           \*The Clerk. Balderson votes no.  
2243           Fulcher?  
2244           \*Mr. Fulcher. No.  
2245           \*The Clerk. Fulcher votes no.  
2246           Pfluger?  
2247           \*Mr. Pfluger. No.  
2248           \*The Clerk. Pfluger votes no.  
2249           Harshbarger?  
2250           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. No.  
2251           \*The Clerk. Harshbarger votes no.  
2252           Cammack?  
2253           \*Mrs. Cammack. No.  
2254           \*The Clerk. Cammack votes no.  
2255           Oberholte?  
2256           \*Mr. Oberholte. No.  
2257           \*The Clerk. Oberholte votes no.  
2258           Rodgers?  
2259           \*The Chair. No.  
2260           \*The Clerk. Rodgers votes no.  
2261           Latta?  
2262           \*Mr. Latta. No.

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2263           \*The Clerk. Latta votes no.  
2264           Matsui?  
2265           \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.  
2266           \*The Clerk. Matsui votes aye.  
2267           Clarke?  
2268           \*Ms. Clarke. Aye.  
2269           \*The Clerk. Clarke votes aye.  
2270           Veasey?  
2271           \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
2272           \*The Clerk. Veasey votes aye.  
2273           Soto?  
2274           \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
2275           \*The Clerk. Soto votes aye.  
2276           Eshoo?  
2277           \*Ms. Eshoo. Aye.  
2278           \*The Clerk. Eshoo votes aye.  
2279           Cardenas?  
2280           \*Mr. Cardenas. Aye.  
2281           \*The Clerk. Cardenas votes aye.  
2282           Craig?  
2283           Fletcher?

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2284            \*Mrs. Fletcher.    Aye.  
2285            \*The Clerk.    Fletcher votes aye.  
2286            Dingell?  
2287            \*Mrs. Dingell.    Aye.  
2288            \*The Clerk.    Dingell votes aye.  
2289            Kuster?  
2290            \*Ms. Kuster.    Aye.  
2291            \*The Clerk.    Kuster votes aye.  
2292            Kelly?  
2293            \*Ms. Kelly.    Aye.  
2294            \*The Clerk.    Kelly votes aye.  
2295            Pallone?  
2296            \*Mr. Pallone.    Aye.  
2297            \*The Clerk.    Pallone votes aye.  
2298            \*Mr. Latta.    Are there any members wishing to record  
2299 their vote?  
2300            \*The Clerk.    Mr. Allen is not recorded.  
2301            \*Mr. Allen.    I vote no.  
2302            \*The Clerk.    Allen votes no.  
2303            \*Mr. Latta.    Are there any other members wishing to  
2304 record their vote?

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2305           Hearing none, the clerk will take the roll. Oh, I'm  
2306 sorry.

2307           \*Mr. Weber. How is (inaudible) no vote recorded?

2308           \*Mr. Latta. Is the gentleman from Texas recorded?

2309           \*The Clerk. Mr. Weber is not recorded.

2310           \*Mr. Weber. Weber votes no.

2311           \*The Clerk. Weber votes no.

2312           \*Mr. Latta. And --

2313           \*Ms. Craig. Is Craig recorded?

2314           \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig is not recorded.

2315           \*Ms. Craig. Craig votes yes.

2316           \*The Clerk. Craig votes aye.

2317           \*Mr. Latta. Last call. Are there any other members  
2318 wishing to record their vote?

2319           Hearing none, the clerk will report the result.

2320           \*The Clerk. Chair Latta, on that vote we have 12 ayes  
2321 and 16 noes.

2322           \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The amendment is not agreed to.  
2323 Are there further amendments?

2324           Why does the gentlelady from Illinois seek recognition?

2325           \*Ms. Kelly. I have an amendment at the desk.

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2326           \*Mr. Latta. Well, the gentlelady has an amendment at  
2327 the desk.

2328           \*Ms. Kelly. It is labeled, Prohibitive Transfer 01.

2329           \*Mr. Latta. The clerk will report the amendment.

2330           \*The Clerk. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of  
2331 a substitute to H.R. 3291 offered by Ms. Kelly. Page 75,  
2332 after line 2, insert the following --

2333           \*Mr. Latta. Without objection, the reading of the  
2334 amendment is dispensed with and the gentlelady from Illinois  
2335 is recognized for five minutes to speak on her amendment.

2336

2337           [The amendment of Ms. Kelly follows:]

2338

2339           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

2340

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2341           \*Ms. Kelly. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My amendment  
2342 seeks to make some clarification provisions of Title 2 of the  
2343 AINS, which addresses the cable franchising process.

2344           Colleagues, regardless of how much involvement you  
2345 believe states and localities should have in the sale or  
2346 transfer or cable franchise, I think we can all agree we  
2347 would not want these franchises sold to persons that are  
2348 affiliated with illicit organizations or entities that are  
2349 deemed a national security threat.

2350           In fact, these people should be prohibited from  
2351 operating anything in this country, including our cable  
2352 franchises. Allowing individuals, such as these, to own  
2353 cable franchises would not only have harmful consequences on  
2354 those families that rely on these franchises to deliver their  
2355 cable and broadband services, but would also violate general  
2356 American norms and values.

2357           My amendment, therefore, seeks to address this  
2358 unfortunate oversight by simply amending Section 201 of the  
2359 AINS to make it clear that cable franchises cannot be  
2360 transferred to any persons affiliated with organized crime, a  
2361 terrorist organization, or any entity on the Federal

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2362 Communication Commissions covered equipment and services  
2363 list.

2364 I would hope that my colleagues on both sides of the  
2365 aisle can support this straight-forward and common-sense  
2366 amendment. Protecting our cable franchises from illegal and  
2367 dangerous entities who seek to upend our country's security  
2368 and safety is an issue that should ring true for all of us.

2369 For all these reasons, this is my important amendment  
2370 and I urge my colleagues to support it. And with that, I  
2371 yield back.

2372 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you. The gentlelady yields back.

2373 Are there any other members seeking recognition to speak  
2374 on the amendment?

2375 The gentlelady from Florida is recognized for five  
2376 minutes to speak on the amendment.

2377 \*Mrs. Cammack. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I move to  
2378 strike the last word.

2379 \*Mr. Latta. The gentlelady is recognized to strike the  
2380 last word.

2381 \*Mrs. Cammack. Thank you. You know, I think everyone  
2382 here can agree that we want to be extraordinarily cautious,

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2383 and cognizant, and thoughtful and while this amendment  
2384 certainly appears that way, there is some vagueness that  
2385 could ultimately undermine its purpose.

2386         Who is to say what is an organized crime or terrorist  
2387 organization? What is that definition? This amendment does  
2388 not say. And certainly, if there is one thing that we have  
2389 learned here it is that we have to be explicit in how we  
2390 define certain organizations.

2391         So certainly, I think we would have loved to have worked  
2392 with you on addressing this concern on this bill. There has  
2393 been ample time to review this text. In fact, in April, this  
2394 Subcommittee, we held a legislative hearing with discussion  
2395 drafts of each piece of legislation and not a single Democrat  
2396 raised this concern.

2397         So since this has been pending since February there has  
2398 been ample time to have these discussions and unfortunately,  
2399 it just seems like this outreach was rejected and ultimately  
2400 our colleagues on the other side of the aisle declined to  
2401 work with us on several of these bills, to include their  
2402 edits.

2403         But that aside, I think until we can actually clarify



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2404 this amendment and work to get those definitions included, we  
2405 can move forward as is, but happy to work with you on how to  
2406 address this concern once we have had time to review the  
2407 language and work through it.

2408 And I unfortunately, I urge my colleagues to oppose this  
2409 amendment. And with that, I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

2410 \*Mr. Latta. The gentlelady yields back.

2411 Are there any other members seeking to speak on the  
2412 gentlelady from Illinois amendment?

2413 Hearing none, a roll call has been requested by the  
2414 gentlelady from California, the ranking member.

2415 So the clerk will call the yays and nays.

2416 \*The Clerk. Bilirakis?

2417 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes no.

2418 \*The Clerk. Bilirakis votes no.

2419 Walberg?

2420 \*Mr. Walberg. No.

2421 \*The Clerk. Walberg votes no.

2422 Carter?

2423 \*Mr. Carter. No.

2424 \*The Clerk. Carter votes no.

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2425           Dunn?  
2426           \*Mr. Dunn.   No.  
2427           \*The Clerk.   Dunn votes no.  
2428           Curtis?  
2429           \*Mr. Curtis.  No.  
2430           \*The Clerk.   Curtis votes no.  
2431           Joyce?  
2432           \*Mr. Joyce.   No.  
2433           \*The Clerk.   Joyce votes no.  
2434           Weber?  
2435           Allen.  
2436           \*Mr. Allen.   No.  
2437           \*The Clerk.   Allen votes no.  
2438           Balderson?  
2439           \*Mr. Balderson. No.  
2440           \*The Clerk.   Balderson votes no.  
2441           Fulcher?  
2442           \*Mr. Fulcher. No.  
2443           \*The Clerk.   Fulcher votes no.  
2444           Pfluger?  
2445           \*Mr. Pfluger. No.

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2446           \*The Clerk. Pfluger votes no.  
2447           Harshbarger?  
2448           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. No.  
2449           \*The Clerk. Harshbarger votes no.  
2450           Cammack?  
2451           \*Mrs. Cammack. No.  
2452           \*The Clerk. Cammack votes no.  
2453           Oberholte?  
2454           \*Mr. Oberholte. No.  
2455           \*The Clerk. Oberholte votes no.  
2456           Rodgers?  
2457           \*The Chair. No.  
2458           \*The Clerk. Rodgers votes no.  
2459           Latta?  
2460           \*Mr. Latta. No.  
2461           \*The Clerk. Latta votes no.  
2462           Matsui?  
2463           \*Ms. Matsui. Aye.  
2464           \*The Clerk. Matsui votes aye.  
2465           Clarke?  
2466           \*Ms. Clarke. Aye.

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2467           \*The Clerk. Clarke votes aye.  
2468           Veasey?  
2469           \*Mr. Veasey. Aye.  
2470           \*The Clerk. Veasey votes aye.  
2471           Soto?  
2472                    Eshoo?  
2473                    Cardenas?  
2474           \*Mr. Cardenas. Aye.  
2475           \*The Clerk. Cardenas votes aye.  
2476           Craig?  
2477           \*Ms. Craig. Aye.  
2478           \*The Clerk. Craig votes aye.  
2479           Fletcher?  
2480           Dingell?  
2481           \*Mrs. Dingell. Aye.  
2482           \*The Clerk. Dingell votes aye.  
2483           Kuster?  
2484           \*Ms. Kuster. Aye.  
2485           \*The Clerk. Kuster votes aye.  
2486           Kelly?  
2487           \*Ms. Kelly. Aye.

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2488           \*The Clerk. Kelly votes aye.  
2489           Pallone?  
2490           \*Mr. Pallone. Aye.  
2491           \*The Clerk. Pallone votes aye.  
2492           \*Mr. Latta. How is the gentleman from Florida recorded?  
2493           \*Mr. Soto. Aye.  
2494           \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
2495           \*Mr. Latta. Are there other members -- the gentlelady  
2496 from California?  
2497           \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo is not recorded.  
2498           \*Ms. Eshoo. Aye.  
2499           \*The Clerk. Eshoo votes aye.  
2500           \*Mr. Latta. Are there other members wishing to be  
2501 recorded?  
2502           \*Mrs. Fletcher. How is Fletcher recorded?  
2503           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher is not recorded.  
2504           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes aye.  
2505           \*The Clerk. Fletcher votes aye.  
2506           \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to  
2507 record their vote?  
2508           How is the gentleman from Texas recorded?

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2509           \*The Clerk. Mr. Weber is not recorded.

2510           \*Mr. Weber. Put me down as a no.

2511           \*The Clerk. Weber votes no.

2512           \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members?

2513           Hearing none, the clerk will take a roll.

2514           \*The Clerk. Chair Latta, on that vote we have 12 ayes

2515 and 16 noes.

2516           \*Mr. Latta. The amendment is not agreed to. Are there

2517 further amendments?

2518           Are there any further amendments?

2519           Hearing none, at this time then is there any further

2520 discussion on the AINS?

2521           Hearing no further discussion on the AINS, all those --

2522 I assume you want a recorded vote there?

2523           \*Ms. Matsui. Roll call.

2524           \*Mr. Latta. The Subcommittee ranking member requests a

2525 roll call vote.

2526           This is on the AINS. And so the clerk will report the

2527 yays and the nays.

2528           \*The Clerk. Bilirakis?

2529           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes yes.

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2530                   \*The Clerk. Bilirakis votes aye.  
2531                   Walberg?  
2532                   \*Mr. Walberg. Aye.  
2533                   \*The Clerk. Walberg votes aye.  
2534                   Carter?  
2535                   \*Mr. Carter. Aye.  
2536                   \*The Clerk. Carter votes aye.  
2537                   Dunn?  
2538                   \*Mr. Dunn. Aye.  
2539                   \*The Clerk. Dunn votes aye.  
2540                   Curtis?  
2541                   \*Mr. Curtis. Aye.  
2542                   \*The Clerk. Curtis votes aye.  
2543                   Joyce?  
2544                   \*Mr. Joyce. Yes.  
2545                   \*The Clerk. Joyce votes aye.  
2546                   Weber?  
2547                   \*Mr. Weber. Aye.  
2548                   \*The Clerk. Weber votes aye.  
2549                   Allen?  
2550                   \*Mr. Allen. Aye.

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2551           \*The Clerk. Allen votes aye.  
2552           Balderson?  
2553           \*Mr. Balderson. Aye.  
2554           \*The Clerk. Balderson votes aye.  
2555           Fulcher?  
2556           \*Mr. Fulcher. Aye.  
2557           \*The Clerk. Fulcher votes aye.  
2558           Pflugger?  
2559           \*Mr. Pflugger. Aye.  
2560           \*The Clerk. Pflugger votes aye.  
2561           Harshbarger?  
2562           \*Mrs. Harshbarger. Aye.  
2563           \*The Clerk. Harshbarger votes aye.  
2564           Cammack?  
2565           \*Mrs. Cammack. Aye.  
2566           \*The Clerk. Cammack votes aye.  
2567           Oberholte?  
2568           \*Mr. Oberholte. Aye.  
2569           \*The Clerk. Oberholte votes aye.  
2570           Rodgers?  
2571           \*The Chair. Aye.



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2572           \*The Clerk.   Rodgers votes aye.  
2573           Latta?  
2574           \*Mr. Latta.   Aye.  
2575           \*The Clerk.   Latta votes aye.  
2576           Matsui?  
2577           \*Ms. Matsui.  No.  
2578           \*The Clerk.   Matsui votes no.  
2579           Clarke?  
2580           \*Ms. Clarke.  No.  
2581           \*The Clerk.   Clarke votes no.  
2582           Veasey?  
2583           \*Mr. Veasey.  No.  
2584           \*The Clerk.   Veasey votes no.  
2585           Soto?  
2586           Eshoo?  
2587           \*Ms. Eshoo.  No.  
2588           \*The Clerk.   Eshoo votes no.  
2589           Cardenas?  
2590           \*Mr. Cardenas. No.  
2591           \*The Clerk.   Cardenas votes no.  
2592           Craig?

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2593           \*Ms. Craig. No.  
2594           \*The Clerk. Craig votes no.  
2595           Fletcher?  
2596           \*Mrs. Fletcher. No.  
2597           \*The Clerk. Fletcher votes no.  
2598           Dingell?  
2599           \*Mrs. Dingell. No.  
2600           \*The Clerk. Dingell votes no.  
2601           Kuster?  
2602           \*Ms. Kuster. No.  
2603           \*The Clerk. Kuster votes no.  
2604           Kelly?  
2605           \*Ms. Kelly. No.  
2606           \*The Clerk. Kelly votes no.  
2607           Pallone?  
2608           \*Mr. Pallone. No.  
2609           \*The Clerk. Pallone votes no.  
2610           \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members -- how is the  
2611 gentleman from Florida recorded?  
2612           \*Mr. Soto. It was nay.  
2613           \*The Clerk. Soto votes nay.

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2614           \*Mr. Latta. Are there any other members wishing to  
2615 record their vote?

2616           \*The Clerk. Chair Latta, on that vote we have 16 ayes  
2617 and 12 noes.

2618           \*Mr. Latta. The AINS amendment is agreed to and at this  
2619 time the question now occurs on forwarding H.R. 3291, as  
2620 amended, to the full Committee.

2621           All those in favor will signify by saying aye.

2622           Those opposed, no.

2623           A roll call vote has been requested. The clerk will  
2624 take the roll.

2625           \*The Clerk. Bilirakis?

2626           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes yes.

2627           \*The Clerk. Bilirakis votes aye.

2628           Walberg?

2629           \*Mr. Walberg. Aye.

2630           \*The Clerk. Walberg votes aye.

2631           Carter?

2632           \*Mr. Carter. Aye.

2633           \*The Clerk. Carter votes aye.

2634           Dunn?

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2635           \*Mr. Dunn.   Aye.  
2636           \*The Clerk.   Dunn votes aye.  
2637           Curtis?  
2638           \*Mr. Curtis.  Aye.  
2639           \*The Clerk.   Curtis votes aye.  
2640           Joyce?  
2641           \*Mr. Joyce.   Aye.  
2642           \*The Clerk.   Joyce votes aye.  
2643           Weber?  
2644           \*Mr. Weber.   Aye.  
2645           \*The Clerk.   Weber votes aye.  
2646           Allen?  
2647           \*Mr. Allen.   Aye.  
2648           \*The Clerk.   Allen votes aye.  
2649           Balderson?  
2650           \*Mr. Balderson.  Aye.  
2651           \*The Clerk.   Balderson votes aye.  
2652           Fulcher?  
2653           \*Mr. Fulcher.  Aye.  
2654           \*The Clerk.   Fulcher votes aye.  
2655           Pflugger?

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2656           \*Mr. Pfluger.   Aye.  
2657           \*The Clerk.   Pfluger votes aye.  
2658           Harshbarger?  
2659           \*Mrs. Harshbarger.   Aye.  
2660           \*The Clerk.   Harshbarger votes aye.  
2661           Cammack?  
2662           \*Mrs. Cammack.   Aye.  
2663           \*The Clerk.   Cammack votes aye.  
2664           Oberholte?  
2665           \*Mr. Oberholte.   Aye.  
2666           \*The Clerk.   Oberholte votes aye.  
2667           Rodgers?  
2668           \*The Chair.   Aye.  
2669           \*The Clerk.   Rodgers votes aye.  
2670           Latta?  
2671           \*Mr. Latta.   Aye.  
2672           \*The Clerk.   Latta votes aye.  
2673           Matsui?  
2674           \*Ms. Matsui.   No.  
2675           \*The Clerk.   Matsui votes no.  
2676           Clarke?

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2677 \*Ms. Clarke. No.  
2678 \*The Clerk. Clarke votes no.  
2679 Veasey?  
2680 \*Mr. Veasey. No.  
2681 \*The Clerk. Veasey votes no.  
2682 Soto?  
2683 \*Mr. Soto. Nay.  
2684 \*The Clerk. Soto votes no.  
2685 Eshoo?  
2686 \*Ms. Eshoo. No.  
2687 \*The Clerk. Eshoo votes no.  
2688 Cardenas?  
2689 \*Mr. Cardenas. No.  
2690 \*The Clerk. Cardenas votes no.  
2691 Craig?  
2692 \*Ms. Craig. No.  
2693 \*The Clerk. Craig votes no.  
2694 Fletcher?  
2695 \*Mrs. Fletcher. No.  
2696 \*The Clerk. Fletcher votes no.  
2697 Dingell?

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2698 \*Mrs. Dingell. No.

2699 \*The Clerk. Dingell votes no.

2700 Kuster?

2701 \*Ms. Kuster. No.

2702 \*The Clerk. Kuster votes no.

2703 Kelly?

2704 \*Ms. Kelly. No.

2705 \*The Clerk. Kelly votes no.

2706 Pallone?

2707 \*Mr. Pallone. No.

2708 \*The Clerk. Pallone votes no.

2709 \*Mr. Latta. Are there any members wishing to record  
2710 their votes?

2711 Hearing none, the clerk will take the roll.

2712 \*The Clerk. Chair Latta, on that vote we have 16 ayes  
2713 and 12 noes.

2714 \*Mr. Latta. The ayes have it. The bill is agreed to,  
2715 as amended.

2716 The Chair just wants to thank everybody for their  
2717 attendance today and the Subcommittee is adjourned.

2718 [Whereupon, at 4:17 p.m., the Subcommittee was

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2719 adjourned.]