

# Union Calendar No. 198

118<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 3343

[Report No. 118-248]

To require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the Assistant Secretary to track the acceptance, processing, and disposal of certain Form 299s, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2023

Mr. PFLUGER (for himself and Mr. SOTO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

OCTOBER 25, 2023

Reported from the Committee on Energy and Commerce; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

# **A BILL**

To require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the Assistant Secretary to track the acceptance, processing, and disposal of certain Form 299s, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Federal Broadband  
5 Deployment Tracking Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PLAN FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO TRACK THE**  
7               **ACCEPTANCE, PROCESSING, AND DISPOSAL**  
8               **OF CERTAIN FORM 299S.**

9       (a) PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
10 of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall  
11 submit to the appropriate congressional committees a plan  
12 containing a description of—

13               (1) the process by which the Assistant Sec-  
14 retary proposes to—

15                       (A) track the acceptance, processing, and  
16 disposal of each Form 299 for communications  
17 use authorization;

18                       (B) provide applicants additional trans-  
19 parency with respect to the status of the appli-  
20 cable Form 299 for communications use au-  
21 thorization; and

22                       (C) most expeditiously implement the plan;  
23 and

24               (2) any potential barriers to implementing the  
25 plan that are identified by the Assistant Secretary.

1 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
3 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
4 mittees” means—

5 (A) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
6 merce of the House of Representatives; and

7 (B) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
8 and Transportation of the Senate.

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

12 (3) COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.—The term  
13 “communications facility” has the meaning given the  
14 term communications facility installation in section  
15 6409(d) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job  
16 Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1455(d)).

17 (4) COMMUNICATIONS USE.—The term “com-  
18 munications use” means the placement and oper-  
19 ation of a communications facility.

20 (5) COMMUNICATIONS USE AUTHORIZATION.—  
21 The term “communications use authorization”  
22 means an easement, right-of-way, lease, license, or  
23 other authorization—

24 (A) provided by the Secretary of the Inte-  
25 rior or the Secretary of Agriculture;

1 (B) to locate or modify a communications  
2 facility on covered land; and

3 (C) for the primary purpose of authorizing  
4 the occupancy and use of such covered land for  
5 communications use.

6 (6) COVERED LAND.—The term “covered land”  
7 means—

8 (A) public lands; and

9 (B) National Forest System land.

10 (7) FORM 299.—The term “Form 299” means  
11 the form established under section 6409(b)(2)(A) of  
12 the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act  
13 of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1455(b)(2)(A)), or any successor  
14 form.

15 (8) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—The term  
16 “National Forest System” has the meaning given  
17 the term in section 11(a) of the Forest and Range-  
18 land Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16  
19 U.S.C. 1609(a)).

20 (9) PUBLIC LANDS.—The term “public lands”  
21 means land under the management of—

22 (A) the Bureau of Land Management;

23 (B) the National Park Service;

24 (C) the United States Fish and Wildlife  
25 Service; or

1 (D) the Bureau of Reclamation.



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**A BILL**

To require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the Assistant Secretary to track the acceptance, processing, and disposal of certain Form 2998s, and for other purposes.

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OCTOBER 25, 2023

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed