

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 619

To amend the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to provide investment authority to support rural infrastructure development, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. MORAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To amend the Federal Home Loan Bank Act to provide investment authority to support rural infrastructure development, 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 “Improving Rural Ac-
5 cess to Power Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS THAT SUPPORT**
2 **RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.**

3 Section 11 of the Federal Home Loan Bank Act (12
4 U.S.C. 1431) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(m) **COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS THAT SUPPORT**
7 **RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.**—

8 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Each Federal Home Loan
9 Bank is authorized to purchase investment-grade se-
10 curities from nonmember lenders that—

11 “(A) are organized as cooperatives;

12 “(B) have received financing from the Fed-
13 eral Financing Bank; and

14 “(C) have demonstrated experience in
15 making loans to cooperatives that are eligible to
16 receive loans or commitments for loans from
17 the Rural Utilities Service (or any successor
18 agency).

19 “(2) **SECURED INVESTMENTS.**—The securities
20 described in paragraph (1) shall be secured invest-
21 ments collateralized by loans of the cooperative lend-
22 er.

23 “(3) **DISCRETION.**—The purchase of the securi-
24 ties described in paragraph (1) shall be at the sole
25 discretion of each Federal Home Loan Bank, con-

1 sistent with such regulations, restrictions, and limi-
2 tations as may be prescribed by the Agency.”.

○