

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 5419
OFFERED BY MR. WESTERMAN OF ARKANSAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Enhancing Adminis-
3 trative Reviews for Broadband Deployment Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. ENSURING TIMELY REVIEW OF BROADBAND LAND**
5 **USE AUTHORIZATIONS.**

6 (a) **STUDY AND REPORT.**—

7 (1) **STUDY.**—The Secretaries concerned shall
8 each conduct, with respect to the relevant covered
9 department, a study to determine—

10 (A) if there are programmatic or adminis-
11 trative barriers to the timely review of requests
12 for broadband land use authorizations;

13 (B) if there are revisions to rules or regu-
14 lations that could be implemented to improve
15 efficiency with respect to reviewing requests for
16 broadband land use authorizations; and

1 (C) if there are processes for prioritizing
2 the review of requests for broadband land use
3 authorizations.

4 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretaries
6 concerned shall jointly submit to the appropriate
7 congressional committees a report that—

8 (A) describes the results of the studies
9 conducted under paragraph (1), including any
10 barriers, revisions, or processes identified under
11 subparagraphs (A) through (C) of such para-
12 graph; and

13 (B) includes a plan for providing, with re-
14 spect to the organizational units of the relevant
15 covered departments, the staffing necessary to
16 ensure timely review of broadband land use au-
17 thorizations.

18 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
20 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
21 mittees” means the—

22 (A) Committees on Natural Resources, Ag-
23 riculture, and Energy and Commerce of the
24 House of Representatives; and

1 (B) Committees on Commerce, Science,
2 and Transportation and Environment and Pub-
3 lic Works of the Senate.

4 (2) BROADBAND LAND USE AUTHORIZATION.—
5 The term “broadband land use authorization”
6 means an easement, right-of-way, lease, license, or
7 other authorization—

8 (A) provided by the Secretary of the Inte-
9 rior or the Secretary of Agriculture;

10 (B) to locate or modify a communications
11 facility on covered land; and

12 (C) for the primary purpose of authorizing
13 the occupancy and use of such covered land for
14 communications use.

15 (3) COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.—The term
16 “communications facility” has the meaning given the
17 term “communications facility installation” in sec-
18 tion 6409(d) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job
19 Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1455(d)).

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

23 (5) COVERED LAND.—The term “covered land”
24 means—

25 (A) public lands; and

1 (B) National Forest System land.

2 (6) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—The term
3 “National Forest System” has the meaning given
4 that term in section 11(a) of the Forest and Range-
5 land Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16
6 U.S.C. 1609(a)).

7 (7) ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT.—The term “orga-
8 nizational unit” means—

9 (A) with respect to the Department of the
10 Interior—

11 (i) a State office of the Bureau of
12 Land Management;

13 (ii) a district office of the Bureau of
14 Land Management; or

15 (iii) a field office of the Bureau of
16 Land Management; and

17 (B) with respect to the Department of Ag-
18 riculture—

19 (i) a regional office of the Forest
20 Service;

21 (ii) a management unit of the Forest
22 Service; or

23 (iii) a ranger district office of the For-
24 est Service.

1 (8) PUBLIC LANDS.—The term “public lands”
2 has the meaning given that term in section 103 of
3 the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of
4 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702).

5 (9) RELEVANT COVERED DEPARTMENT.—The
6 term “relevant covered department” means—

7 (A) with respect to the Secretary of the In-
8 terior, the Department of the Interior; and

9 (B) with respect to the Secretary of Agri-
10 culture, the Department of Agriculture.

11 (10) SECRETARIES CONCERNED.—The term
12 “Secretaries concerned” means—

13 (A) the Secretary of the Interior; and

14 (B) the Secretary of Agriculture, acting
15 through the Chief of the Forest Service.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a plan for ensuring timely review of broadband land use authorizations, and for other purposes.”.

