

Utility Poles: Speeding Broadband Deployment to Close the Digital Divide

Families rely on the internet for just about everything. But an outdated process of attaching broadband cables to utility poles is preventing access for millions, particularly in rural America.

Broadband providers often don't own utility poles



Broadband providers are forced to take on a costly & lengthy process



Broadband providers must often pay to replace old poles, just to keep the project moving



Outdated rules cause project delays



These high costs and unpredictable delays keep broadband from reaching all Americans

Outdated rules can **delay buildout** up to a year or more

Total costs can add up to **1/3 of rural broadband expenses**

More than 14.5 million people are still unconnected

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To bridge the digital divide, Congress must ensure a fast, fair process for utility pole access, replacements, and dispute resolution for broadband infrastructure.

Learn more at
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