



March 2021

LEADING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TOMORROW'S (LIFT) AMERICA ACT

SECTION-BY-SECTION

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & COMMERCE

TITLE I—UNIVERSAL BROADBAND AND NEXT GENERATION 9-1-1

Subtitle A. Digital Equity

This subtitle establishes new grant programs, authorized at \$1.3 billion total, at the Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth (OICG) within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program would aid States in digital equity and digital inclusion activities. The State Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program would award grants to local entities, tribal governments, Alaska Native entities, Native Hawaiian organizations, non-profits, anchor institutions, educational entities, and workforce development programs for digital inclusion activities. Both programs include a five percent minimum set aside to award grants to Indian tribes, Alaska Native entities, and Native Hawaiian organizations.

Subtitle B. Broadband Affordability and Pricing Transparency

This subtitle authorizes an additional \$6 billion for the Emergency Broadband Benefit program at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), which provides a discount of up to \$50 off the cost of monthly broadband service for eligible households, or up to \$75 for households on tribal lands. It also authorizes \$200 million to help States participate in the National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier.

This subtitle also authorizes an additional \$2 billion for home internet connectivity for students, teachers, and library patrons based on the FCC's E-rate authorities.

Finally, the subtitle requires the FCC to adopt rules to collect from service providers certain data regarding price of broadband service plans and subscription rates, and data to determine the resiliency of the network in the event of a natural disaster or emergency. It also requires the FCC to issue rules to promote and incentivize a standard format for broadband internet service providers to disclose to consumers the price and terms of their service offerings.

Subtitle C. Broadband Access

This subtitle would authorize \$80 billion in high-speed broadband internet buildout across the country.

Three-fourths of the funds would be awarded by the FCC through a nationwide competitive bidding process to ensure the efficient distribution of the funds to areas that don't have high-speed broadband internet service today.

The FCC would be required to allocate the remaining one-fourth of the funds to states, to fund broadband deployment using competitive bidding processes, to areas without high-speed broadband service. It also authorizes \$500 million in additional funding for the Tribal broadband grant program at the NTIA.

The subtitle also creates the Broadband Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (BIFIA) program at the NTIA. This subtitle would authorize \$5 billion in federal funding for the BIFIA program to make low-interest

financing available for broadband infrastructure deployment projects.

Finally, the subtitle requires the FCC to promulgate rules to allow E-rate funds to be used to provide Wi-Fi service on school buses.

Subtitle D. Community Broadband

This subtitle prohibits state governments from enforcing laws or regulations that inhibit local governments, public-private partnerships, and cooperatives from delivering broadband service.

Subtitle E. Next Generation 9-1-1

This subtitle would authorize the Next Generation 9-1-1 Implementation Coordination Office to provide \$15 billion in grants for fiscal years 2022-2026 for the deployment and implementation of Next Generation 9-1-1 services across the country. Next Generation 9-1-1 would protect American lives by making 9-1-1 systems interoperable and more resilient and by allowing callers to send text messages, images, or videos to 9-1-1 to help first responders better assess the nature of emergencies and protect callers when they can't speak to 9-1-1 dispatchers.

TITLE II—DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

This title would amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to require the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator to establish, within 180 days of enactment, a program to award grants to water systems affected by contamination from per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to pay the capital costs associated with eligible treatment technologies. These grants would provide up to \$2.5 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 to affected water systems to combat PFAS contamination. The legislation further directs the EPA Administrator to create a list of eligible treatment technologies, defined as those which can remove all detectable amounts of PFAS from drinking water.

This title also includes provisions to extend and increase authorizations of \$26.3 billion for essential drinking water programs, including: the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund, the Indian Reservation Drinking Water Program, School and Child Care Program Lead Testing grants, Lead Drinking Fountain Replacement, Community Water System Risk and Resilience grants, and Public Water System Supervision grants to states. This title also extends Buy American requirements for drinking water projects along with the funding extension.

Finally, it also authorizes \$4.5 billion per year from fiscal year 2022-2026 to replace lead service lines with priority for replacing lines in disadvantaged and environmental justice communities.

TITLE III—CLEAN ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

Subtitle A. Grid Security and Modernization

This subtitle provides nearly \$3.87 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 for electric grid infrastructure, focused on grid modernization, security, resiliency, and efficiency. Funds will support infrastructure improvements to enhance energy security, smart grid technology deployment, and efficiency upgrades. The subtitle also includes funding to establish a strategic transformer reserve to speed electric grid recovery following extreme weather events.

Subtitle B. Energy Efficient Infrastructure

This subtitle includes several programs to cut energy usage, benefit consumers, and address climate change. The subtitle provides \$500 million for fiscal years 2022-2026 for school energy efficiency retrofits, and \$6.5 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 for home energy efficiency retrofits. These retrofits will save consumers and school systems money and remove dangerous lighting containing toxic PCBs from school environments.

The subtitle also provides \$20 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 for improving the resilience and efficiency of critical public facilities.

This subtitle provides grants to states, local governments, and Indian tribes to support their efforts to reduce fossil fuel emissions and conserve energy. The bill reauthorizes the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program to provide \$17.5 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026, including funding to deploy infrastructure for delivering alternative fuels (including electricity). It also provides \$500 million for public buildings energy performance improvements.

Subtitle C. Energy Supply Infrastructure

This subtitle will strengthen existing energy supply infrastructure and expand renewable energy infrastructure to increase climate resiliency and reduce greenhouse gas pollution. To strengthen existing infrastructure, the subtitle provides \$1.25 billion in assistance for low income communities to support methane pipeline replacement.

To expand renewable energy infrastructure, the subtitle provides \$1 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 to support solar installations in low income and underserved communities. The subtitle also provides \$250 million for fiscal years 2022-2026 to support clean distributed energy and \$18 billion over the same period to leverage public and private funds to help finance clean energy technologies. Additionally, the subtitle includes new provisions on dam safety, including mandating dam safety and financial viability requirements as part of the federal hydropower licensing process.

Subtitle D. Smart Communities Infrastructure

This subtitle provides \$850 million for fiscal years 2022-2026 to spur the development of Smart Communities infrastructure through technical assistance, grants, and training. This section authorizes the Department of Energy's (DOE) proposed Cities, Counties, and Communities energy program to provide technical assistance and competitive grants for clean energy solutions in development and redevelopment efforts. It also funds technical assistance, provided by DOE's national labs, to cities and towns looking to deploy smart community infrastructure. Additionally, this subtitle expands the Department of Commerce Smart Cities Demonstration Project to include small and medium cities and towns.

The subtitle also authorizes the Clean Cities Coalition Network Program and provides \$375 million for fiscal years 2022-2026 to support expanded development of alternative fuel infrastructure and expanded use of alternative fuel vehicles.

The subtitle further provides \$625 million for fiscal years 2022-2026 to reauthorize the State Energy Program and provides additional funds to support development of an electric vehicle charging network to facilitate greater use of electricity to fuel the transportation sector. It includes \$500 million for fiscal years 2022-2026 for electric vehicle supply equipment for light-duty vehicles, \$650 million for electric school buses, and \$10 million to support the deployment of clean refrigerated vehicles.

The subtitle also includes policy changes to accelerate electrification of the transportation sector. It authorizes \$22.5 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 to provide grants to state and local governments to support projects that encourage the use of electric vehicles.

Additionally, this subtitle authorizes \$3.8 billion to reduce air pollution at ports by electrifying port infrastructure, and \$12.5 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 for the Domestic Manufacturing Vehicles Grant program. This subtitle also updates the Advanced Technologies Vehicles Manufacturing Incentive Program.

TITLE IV—HEALTH CARE INFRASTRUCTURE

This title authorizes \$6 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 to award grants to invest in the core public health infrastructure needs of State, local, Tribal, and territorial health departments. This funding is designed to increase workforce capacity and competency, expand laboratory systems, improve health information systems, communications, financing, and other relevant components as defined.

This title is also designed to expand and improve core public health infrastructure and activities within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and authorizes \$1 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026.

It also reauthorizes the Hill-Burton program by providing \$10 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 for hospital infrastructure modernization and improvements. The title funds projects that will increase capacity and update hospitals and other medical facilities in order to better serve communities in need. Priority is given to projects for public health emergency preparedness or cybersecurity upgrades that will protect against cyber threats.

This title also creates a pilot program and authorizes \$4.5 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 to support the improvement, renovation, or modernization of clinical laboratory infrastructure. These infrastructure improvements are designed to help improve SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 testing and response activities, including the expansion and enhancement of testing capacity at such labs.

It also authorizes \$5 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 for planning, design, construction, modernization, and renovation of hospitals and outpatient health care facilities funded by the Indian Health Service (IHS).

This title also authorizes \$500 million for fiscal years 2022-2026 to create a pilot program to award grants to qualified teaching health centers and behavioral health care centers to support the improvement, renovation, or modernization of infrastructure at such centers.

Finally, it also authorizes \$10 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 for community health center capital projects. Further, it expedites funding to ensure that grants are awarded as soon as fiscal year 2022.

TITLE V—BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT

This title provides \$2.7 billion for fiscal years 2022-2026 for EPA's Brownfields redevelopment grants.