

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—118th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 2018

To require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct an assessment to identify locations in National Parks in which there is the greatest need for broadband internet access service and areas in National Parks in which there is the greatest need for cellular service, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended
to be proposed by Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. KING)

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Connect Our Parks
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE AND CEL-**
7 **LULAR SERVICE ASSESSMENT AND PLAN-**
8 **NING IN NATIONAL PARKS.**

9 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
2 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
3 gress” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Energy and Natural
5 Resources of the Senate;

6 (B) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
7 and Transportation of the Senate;

8 (C) the Committee on Natural Resources
9 of the House of Representatives; and

10 (D) the Committee on Energy and Com-
11 merce of the House of Representatives.

12 (2) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.—
13 The term “broadband internet access service” has
14 the meaning given the term in section 8.1(b) of title
15 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor reg-
16 ulation).

17 (3) CELLULAR SERVICE.—The term “cellular
18 service” has the meaning given the term in section
19 22.99 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or a
20 successor regulation).

21 (4) NATIONAL PARK.—The term “National
22 Park” means a unit of the National Park System.

23 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
24 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Di-
25 rector of the National Park Service.

1 (b) ASSESSMENT.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary
4 shall complete an assessment of National Parks to
5 identify—

6 (A) locations in National Parks in which
7 there is the greatest need for broadband inter-
8 net access service, based on the considerations
9 described in paragraph (2)(A); and

10 (B) areas in National Parks in which there
11 is the greatest need for cellular service, based
12 on the considerations described in paragraph
13 (2)(B).

14 (2) CONSIDERATIONS.—

15 (A) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERV-
16 ICE.—For purposes of identifying locations in
17 National Parks under paragraph (1)(A), the
18 Secretary shall consider, with respect to each
19 National Park, the availability of broadband
20 internet access service in—

21 (i) housing;

22 (ii) administrative facilities and re-
23 lated structures;

24 (iii) lodging;

25 (iv) developed campgrounds; and

1 (v) any other location within the Na-
2 tional Park in which broadband internet
3 access service is determined to be nec-
4 essary by the superintendent of the Na-
5 tional Park.

6 (B) CELLULAR SERVICE.—For purposes of
7 identifying areas in National Parks under para-
8 graph (1)(B), the Secretary shall consider, with
9 respect to each National Park, the availability
10 of cellular service in any developed area within
11 the National Park that would increase—

12 (i) the access of the public to emer-
13 gency services and traveler information
14 technologies; or

15 (ii) the communications capabilities of
16 National Park Service employees.

17 (3) REPORT.—On completion of the assessment
18 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit to
19 the appropriate committees of Congress, and make
20 available on the website of the Department of the
21 Interior, a report describing the results of the as-
22 sessment.

23 (c) PLAN.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after
25 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary

1 shall develop a plan, based on the results of the as-
2 sessment completed under subsection (b) and subject
3 to paragraph (4)—

4 (A) to install broadband internet access
5 service infrastructure in certain locations in Na-
6 tional Parks; and

7 (B) to install cellular service equipment
8 and infrastructure in certain areas of National
9 Parks.

10 (2) CONSULTATION.—In developing the plan
11 under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consult
12 with—

13 (A) affected Indian Tribes; and

14 (B) local stakeholders that the super-
15 intendent of the applicable National Park deter-
16 mines to be appropriate.

17 (3) REQUIREMENTS.—The plan developed
18 under paragraph (1) shall—

19 (A) provide for avoiding or minimizing im-
20 pacts to—

21 (i) National Park viewsheds;

22 (ii) cultural and natural resources;

23 (iii) the visitor experience;

24 (iv) other resources or values of the
25 National Park; and

1 (v) historic properties and the
2 viewsheds of historic properties;

3 (B) provide for infrastructure providing
4 broadband internet access service or cellular
5 service to be located in—

6 (i) previously disturbed or developed
7 areas; or

8 (ii) areas zoned for uses that would
9 support the infrastructure;

10 (C) provide for the use of public-private
11 partnerships—

12 (i) to install broadband internet ac-
13 cess service or cellular service equipment;
14 and

15 (ii) to provide broadband internet ac-
16 cess service or cellular service;

17 (D) be technology neutral; and

18 (E) in the case of broadband internet ac-
19 cess service, provide for broadband internet ac-
20 cess service of at least—

21 (i) a 100-Mbps downstream trans-
22 mission capacity; and

23 (ii) a 20-Mbps upstream transmission
24 capacity.

1 (4) LIMITATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph
2 (1), a plan developed under that paragraph shall not
3 be required to address broadband internet access
4 service or cellular service in any National Park with
5 respect to which the superintendent of the National
6 Park determines that there is adequate access to
7 broadband internet access service or cellular service,
8 as applicable.