

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To establish a pilot program through which the Institute of Museum and Library Services shall allocate funds to States for the provision of Internet-connected devices to libraries.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To establish a pilot program through which the Institute of Museum and Library Services shall allocate funds to States for the provision of Internet-connected devices to libraries.

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 Hotspots and Online
5 Technology and Services Procurement for our Tribes and
6 States Act” or the “HOTSPOTS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTERNET HOTSPOT PILOT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act, the terms “library”,
3 “State”, and “State library administrative agency” have
4 the meanings given those terms in section 213 of the Mu-
5 seum and Library Services Act (20 U.S.C. 9122).

6 (b) PILOT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

7 (1) GRANTS TO STATES AND INDIAN TRIBES.—
8 Not later than 21 days after the date of enactment
9 of this Act, the Director of the Institute of Museum
10 and Library Services shall establish a 2-year pilot
11 program, through which the Director shall—

12 (A) reserve 2.5 percent of the amounts ap-
13 propriated to carry out this section to make
14 grants to Indian Tribes and to organizations
15 that primarily serve and represent Native Ha-
16 waiians (as the term is defined in section 6207
17 of the Native Hawaiian Education Act) to en-
18 able such tribes and organizations to carry out
19 the activities described in subsection (c); and

20 (B) allocate grant funds to States in ac-
21 cordance with paragraph (2) to enable States,
22 through the State library administrative agency,
23 as appropriate, to carry out the activities de-
24 scribed in subsection (c).

25 (2) ALLOTMENTS TO STATES.—

26 (A) MINIMUM ALLOTMENTS.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of
2 this subsection, the minimum allotment for
3 each State shall be \$1,600,000, except that
4 the minimum allotment shall be \$160,000
5 in the case of the United States Virgin Is-
6 lands, Guam, American Samoa, the Com-
7 monwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
8 lands, the Republic of the Marshall Is-
9 lands, the Federated States of Micronesia,
10 and the Republic of Palau.

11 (ii) RATABLE REDUCTION.—Notwith-
12 standing clause (i), if the sum appro-
13 priated to carry out this section is insuffi-
14 cient to fully satisfy the requirement of
15 clause (i), each of the minimum allotments
16 under such clause shall be reduced ratably.

17 (B) REMAINDER.—

18 (i) IN GENERAL.—From the remain-
19 der of any sums not reserved or allotted
20 under subparagraph (A), the Director shall
21 award grants to each State in an amount
22 that bears the same relation to such re-
23 mainder as the population of the State
24 bears to the population of all States.

1 (ii) DATA.—The population of each
2 State and of all the States shall be deter-
3 mined by the Director on the basis of the
4 most recent data available from the Bu-
5 reau of the Census.

6 (3) GRANTS FOR INDIAN TRIBES.—An Indian
7 tribe that is eligible for support under section 261
8 of the Library Services and Technology Act (20
9 U.S.C. 9161) may designate a tribal library or tribal
10 library consortium as a library or consortium that is
11 eligible for grant funds under this section, without
12 regard to whether the library or library consortium
13 is eligible for assistance from a State Library Ad-
14 ministrative Agency under the Library Services and
15 Technology Act (20 U.S.C. 9121 et seq.), if the li-
16 brary or library consortium is eligible for support
17 from an Indian tribe under such section 261.

18 (c) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—Each State, Indian
19 Tribe, or other entity receiving a grant, contract, or coop-
20 erative agreement under this section shall use funding
21 under this section to—

22 (1) expand digital network access by purchasing
23 and distributing Internet-connected devices, such as
24 hotspots, to libraries in low-income and rural areas

1 so that those libraries can allow individuals to bor-
2 row Internet-connected devices for home use;

3 (2) provide libraries with funds to pay the other
4 expenses associated with such devices, such as proc-
5 essing, training, associated connectivity, and other
6 necessary expenses related to the retention of these
7 devices; and

8 (3) encourage existing and new partnerships be-
9 tween State and local governments, libraries, non-
10 profit entities, agencies including the Federal Com-
11 munications Commission, and telecommunication
12 providers to coordinate the distribution of Internet-
13 connected devices, such as hotspots.

14 (d) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, OR COOPERATIVE AGREE-
15 MENTS.—From amounts appropriated to carry out this
16 section, \$1,000,000 shall be made available for the Direc-
17 tor of the Institute of Museum and Library Services for
18 grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements with Federal
19 agencies, public and private organizations, and other enti-
20 ties determined to be eligible by the Director to enable
21 those agencies, organizations, and entities to carry out the
22 activities described in subsection (c).

23 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
24 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
25 \$160,000,000.