

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to reauthorize the Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. McCORMICK (for himself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. HOEVEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to reauthorize the Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

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 “Rural and Municipal
5 Utility Cybersecurity Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RURAL AND MUNICIPAL UTILITY ADVANCED CY-**
2 **BERSECURITY GRANT AND TECHNICAL AS-**
3 **SISTANCE PROGRAM.**

4 Section 40124 of the Infrastructure Investment and
5 Jobs Act (42 U.S.C. 18723) is amended to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 40124. RURAL AND MUNICIPAL UTILITY ADVANCED**
7 **CYBERSECURITY GRANT AND TECHNICAL AS-**
8 **SISTANCE PROGRAM.**

9 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 “(1) ADVANCED CYBERSECURITY TECH-
11 NOLOGY.—The term ‘advanced cybersecurity tech-
12 nology’ means any technology, operational capability,
13 or service, including computer hardware, software,
14 or a related asset, that enhances the security posture
15 of electric utilities through improvements in the abil-
16 ity to protect against, detect, respond to, or recover
17 from a cybersecurity threat.

18 “(2) BULK-POWER SYSTEM.—The term ‘bulk-
19 power system’ has the meaning given the term in
20 section 215(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C.
21 824o(a)).

22 “(3) CYBERSECURITY THREAT.—The term ‘cy-
23 bersecurity threat’ has the meaning given the term
24 in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of
25 2002 (6 U.S.C. 650).

1 “(4) DEFENSE CRITICAL ELECTRIC INFRA-
2 STRUCTURE.—The term ‘defense critical electric in-
3 frastructure’ has the meaning given the term in sec-
4 tion 215A(a) of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C.
5 824o–1(a)).

6 “(5) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-
7 tity’ means—

8 “(A) a rural electric cooperative;

9 “(B) an electric utility owned by a political
10 subdivision of a State, such as a municipally
11 owned electric utility;

12 “(C) an electric utility owned by any agen-
13 cy, authority, corporation, or instrumentality of
14 1 or more political subdivisions of a State;

15 “(D) a not-for-profit entity that is in a
16 partnership with not fewer than 6 entities de-
17 scribed in subparagraph (A), (B), or (C); and

18 “(E) an investor-owned electric utility that
19 sells less than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of
20 electricity per year.

21 “(6) FUNDING.—The term ‘funding’ includes
22 grants, cooperative agreements, and prizes.

23 “(7) PROGRAM.—The term ‘Program’ means
24 the Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cyberse-

1 security Grant and Technical Assistance Program es-
2 tablished under subsection (b).

3 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall main-
4 tain a program, to be known as the ‘Rural and Municipal
5 Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical As-
6 sistance Program’, to provide technical assistance and
7 award funding to eligible entities to protect against, de-
8 tect, respond to, and recover from cybersecurity threats.

9 “(c) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of the Program
10 shall be—

11 “(1) to deploy advanced cybersecurity tech-
12 nologies for electric utility systems; and

13 “(2) to increase the participation of eligible en-
14 tities in cybersecurity threat information sharing
15 programs.

16 “(d) AWARDS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the Pro-
18 gram, the Secretary—

19 “(A) shall, subject to the availability of ap-
20 propriations, provide technical assistance and
21 award funding to eligible entities on a competi-
22 tive or noncompetitive basis;

23 “(B) shall develop criteria for providing
24 that technical assistance and awarding that
25 funding;

1 “(C) may enter into agreements that can
2 facilitate the objectives described in subsection
3 (c) with eligible entities to provide technical as-
4 sistance or award funding; and

5 “(D) shall establish a process to ensure, to
6 the extent practicable, that all eligible entities
7 are informed about opportunities to receive
8 technical assistance or funding.

9 “(2) PRIORITY FOR FUNDING AND TECHNICAL
10 ASSISTANCE.—In providing technical assistance and
11 awarding funding under the Program, the Secretary
12 shall give priority to an eligible entity that, as deter-
13 mined by the Secretary—

14 “(A) has limited cybersecurity resources;

15 “(B) owns assets critical to the reliability
16 of the bulk-power system; or

17 “(C) owns or operates defense critical elec-
18 tric infrastructure.

19 “(e) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Information
20 shared by or with the Federal Government or a State,
21 Tribal, or local government under the Program shall be
22 deemed voluntarily shared information and exempt from
23 disclosure under section 552 of title 5, United States Code
24 (commonly known as the ‘Freedom of Information Act’),
25 or any provision of any State, Tribal, or local freedom of

1 information law, open government law, open meetings law,
2 open records law, sunshine law, or similar law requiring
3 the disclosure of information or records.

4 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
5 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
6 out this section \$250,000,000 for the period of fiscal years
7 2027 through 2031.”.