

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture
Washington, DC 20515

July 27, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
H-232 Capitol
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader
H-107 Capitol
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
H-204 Capitol
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Steve Scalise
Minority Whip
H-148 Capitol
Washington DC 20515

Speaker Pelosi, Leader Hoyer, Leader McCarthy, and Whip Scalise:

We write today to ask you for your assistance for a Floor vote on our bipartisan legislation, H.R. 4374, the Broadband Internet Connections for Rural America Act, providing USDA with an authorization of \$43.2 billion, which received a unanimous committee vote.

It is vitally important that the USDA, with its unique expertise, experience, and 159 years History serving Rural America, provide the leading role in our nation's rural broadband strategy. This is why we set aside partisan differences, to craft this legislation.

No agency is better equipped to bring rural broadband internet connections to rural America than the USDA. We must remember, it was the USDA, that was authorized under the 1936 Rural Electrification Act that brought electricity to our rural communities.

The USDA has the deep roots in rural America, where agriculture, food security, forestry, and the largest part of international trade. And, USDA already has the infrastructure on the ground, ready to go in every single state and territory in rural America.

It is with deep respect and urgent need that we, respectfully, ask you, our bipartisan leaders of the U.S. House of Representatives to help us get a Floor vote for our bill, the Broadband Internet Connections for Rural America Act. God bless you and thank you.

Sincerely,



David Scott
Chairman



Glenn "GT" Thompson
Ranking Member

Cc: The Honorable Tom Vilsack