

SUCCESS for BEAD Act - Section-by-Section

Section 1. Short Title

Designates the bill as the Supporting U.S. Critical Connectivity and Economic Strategy and Security for BEAD Act (SUCCESS for BEAD Act)

Section 2. Findings

Congress finds that:

- Leftover BEAD funds should be used to strengthen and sustain approved broadband projects
- Strong telecom networks and a targeted workforce are necessary for deployment and U.S. leadership in emerging technologies and artificial intelligence
- Broadband investments to modernize and harden networks, including 9-1-1 systems, are vital for public safety and national security
- China's investments in AI and networks pose a strategic challenge to the U.S.

Section 3. Use of Remaining BEAD Funds

Amends the BEAD Program to Allow States to Use Remaining BEAD Funds for Certain Eligible Uses:

(1) Definitions

(2) The Following are Eligible Uses:

- Wholesale fiber, conduit systems, and related infrastructure
- Internet exchange points
- Mobile wireless infrastructure
- Workforce development targeting initiatives related to broadband deployment, emerging technologies/AI, cybersecurity, and electrical sectors
- Submarine cable infrastructure
- Next Generation 911 (NG911) implementation or upgrades
- Resources for data collection, mapping, planning, and permitting to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the program
- Any additional items deemed necessary by NTIA
- Data centers are ***explicitly prohibited*** as a use of funds

(3) Includes Subgrant Requirements and Priorities for States in Awarding Remaining BEAD Funds for Eligible Uses

- Competitive subgrants required (with limited workforce exceptions)

- Priority is given to projects that improve infrastructure in rural areas, enhance public safety or national security, strengthen network resiliency and cybersecurity, support federal or military facilities, reduce network latency, or advance AI-related technology
- Generally requires a 25% match, with waiver authority
- Creates a ***mandatory public challenge process*** before awarding subgrants for wholesale fiber projects to prevent unnecessary overbuilding, with clear standards for valid challenges and transparency requirements

(4) Build America, Buy America

- Preserves NTIA's existing BEAD Buy America waiver

(5) Implementation and Guidance

- NTIA must issue implementation guidance within 30 days of enactment
- Workforce guidance must be coordinated with the Department of Labor
- Guidance must align with federal uniform grant rules to ensure transparency and proper audit requirements

(6) NG911 Coordination

- Requires coordination, certification, cybersecurity, interoperability, and governance standards when BEAD funds are used for NG911, with NTIA oversight