

H. R. 1625

One Hundred Fifteenth Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Wednesday,
the third day of January, two thousand and eighteen*

An Act

To amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to include severe forms of trafficking in persons within the definition of transnational organized crime for purposes of the rewards program of the Department of State, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of
the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018”.

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shall be in addition to amounts otherwise made available for research and criminal investigations related to such import articles, and be available for enhancing such research and investigations: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate on the obligation of amounts appropriated under this section.

SEC. 779. For an additional amount for “Rural Utilities Service—Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program”, \$600,000,000, to remain available until expended, for the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a new broadband loan and grant pilot program under the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 (7 U.S.C. 901 et seq.): *Provided*, That for the purpose of the new pilot program, the authorities provided in such Act shall include the authority to make grants for such purposes, as described in section 601(a) of such Act: *Provided further*, That the cost of direct loans shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: *Provided further*, That at least 90 percent of the households to be served by a project receiving a loan or grant under the pilot program shall be in a rural area without sufficient access to broadband, defined for this pilot program as 10 Mbps downstream, and 1 Mbps upstream, which shall be reevaluated and redetermined, as necessary, on an annual basis by the Secretary of Agriculture: *Provided further*, That an entity to which a loan or grant is made under the pilot program shall not use the loan or grant to overbuild or duplicate broadband expansion efforts made by any entity that has received a broadband loan from the Rural Utilities Service: *Provided further*, That in addition to other available funds, not more than four percent of the funds can be used for administrative costs to carry out this pilot program and up to three percent may be utilized for technical assistance and pre-development planning activities to support the most rural communities, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for “Rural Development, Salaries and Expenses”: *Provided further*, That the Rural Utility Service is directed to expedite program delivery methods that would implement this section: *Provided further*, That for purposes of this section, the Secretary shall adhere to the notice, reporting and service area assessment requirements set forth in sections 6104(a)(2)(D) and 6104(a)(2)(E) of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (7 U.S.C. 950bb(d)(5), and 950bb(d)(8) and 950bb(d)(10)).

SEC. 780. For an additional amount for the cost of direct loans and grants made under the “Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account”, \$500,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$495,000,000 shall be for grants.

SEC. 781. The Secretary of Agriculture and the Commissioner of Food and Drugs shall—

(1) post on a public Website in a searchable format information on competitive grant awards made using funds made available under an appropriations Act (other than funds appropriated to the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Forest Service, or funds provided under the heading “Food for Peace Title II Grants”) that includes, with respect to each such award, the Congressional District corresponding to the State, District, Tribal jurisdiction, or territory of the United States in which the recipient of the funds is geographically located; and