

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. BACON OF NEBRASKA**

Page 387, after line 24, insert the following:

1 **SEC. _____. TRANSPARENCY.**

2 All loans, grants, or other assistance awarded under
3 title I, II, or III of the Rural Electrification Act of 1936
4 or by the rural development mission area under the Con-
5 solidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C.
6 1921 et seq.) are subject to the following transparency re-
7 quirements:

8 (1) The Secretary shall provide a fully search-
9 able database on the website of Rural Utilities Serv-
10 ice that contains, at a minimum—

11 (A) notice of each application for a loan or
12 grant under such Act describing the applica-
13 tion, including—

14 (i) the identity of the applicant;
15 (ii) a description of each application,
16 including—

17 (I) each census block proposed to
18 be served by the applicant; and

19 (II) the amount and type of sup-
20 port requested by each applicant; and

1 (iii) the status of each application;

2 and

3 (B) notice of each entity receiving assist-
4 ance under this subchapter, including—

5 (i) the name of the entity; and

6 (ii) the type of assistance being re-
7 ceived.

8 (2) The Secretary shall, with respect to an ap-
9 plication for such a loan—

10 (A) provide not less than 15 days following
11 notice of an application under paragraph (1)(A)
12 for an interested party to voluntarily submit in-
13 formation concerning the services that such
14 party offers in the census blocks described in
15 paragraph (1)(A)(ii) so that the Secretary may
16 assess whether the application would result in
17 any duplication of lines, facilities, or systems al-
18 ready providing reasonably adequate services;

19 (B) require a party submitting information
20 under subparagraph (A) to include sufficient in-
21 formation to document and verify its service of-
22 fering, including an officer certification and
23 documented evidence of network coverage to
24 specific locations that meets reasonable engi-
25 neering standards;

1 (C) require a party submitting information
2 under subparagraph (A) to serve a copy of its
3 filing on the party seeking an award; and

4 (D) provide the party seeking the award a
5 reasonable opportunity to respond to any chal-
6 lenging party's filing following receipt of the fil-
7 ing.

