

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to establish a Telecommunications Workforce Development Advisory Council within the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WALBERG introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**A BILL**

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to establish a Telecommunications Workforce Development Advisory Council within the Federal Communications Commission, 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 “Telecommunications  
5 Opportunities for Workers Engaging in Real Infrastruc-  
6 ture Deployment Act of 2019” or the “TOWER Infra-  
7 structure Deployment Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORKFORCE DEVELOP-**  
2 **MENT ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

3 Part I of title III of the Communications Act of 1934  
4 (47 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
5 the following:

6 **“SEC. 344. TELECOMMUNICATIONS WORKFORCE DEVELOP-**  
7 **MENT ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

8 “(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established within  
9 the Commission a Telecommunications Workforce Devel-  
10 opment Advisory Council (referred to in this section as  
11 the ‘Advisory Council’).

12 “(b) **DUTIES.**—The Advisory Council shall advise the  
13 Commission on, and develop recommendations with re-  
14 spect to—

15 “(1) the needs of the workforce in the commu-  
16 nications industry to promote the deployment of  
17 communications facility installations;

18 “(2) ways to encourage participation in indus-  
19 try-led workforce development programs; and

20 “(3) ways to improve workforce development in  
21 the communications industry.

22 “(c) **MEMBERS.**—

23 “(1) **COMPOSITION OF COUNCIL.**—The Advisory  
24 Council shall be composed of members appointed  
25 under paragraph (2) that shall include at least one  
26 member representing, respectively—

1           “(A) the Telecommunications Industry  
2           Registered Apprenticeship Program;

3           “(B) the National Telecommunications and  
4           Information Administration;

5           “(C) a State agency;

6           “(D) a local agency;

7           “(E) a Tribal agency;

8           “(F) the communications industry; and

9           “(G) a minority institution (as defined in  
10           section 365 of the Higher Education Act of  
11           1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067k)).

12           “(2) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Not later than  
13           90 days after the date of the enactment of this sec-  
14           tions, the Chairman of the Commission shall appoint  
15           members to serve on the Advisory Council.

16           “(3) TERM.—Each member appointed under  
17           paragraph (2) shall serve on the Advisory Council  
18           until the termination of the Council.

19           “(4) CHAIR.—The Chairman of the Commission  
20           shall designate a member of the Advisory Council as  
21           Chair.

22           “(5) VACANCY.—A vacancy in the Advisory  
23           Council shall be filled in the manner in which the  
24           original appointment was made.

1           “(6) COMPENSATION.—The members of the Ad-  
2           visory Council shall serve without compensation.

3           “(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
4 of the enactment of this section, the Advisory Council shall  
5 submit a report on the recommendations under subsection  
6 (b) to—

7           “(1) the Committee on Energy and Commerce  
8           of the House of Representatives;

9           “(2) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and  
10          Transportation of the Senate;

11          “(3) the Committee on Education and Labor of  
12          the House of Representatives; and

13          “(4) the Committee on Health, Education,  
14          Labor, and Pensions of the Senate.

15          “(e) TERMINATION OF ADVISORY COUNCIL.—Not-  
16 withstanding section 14 of the Federal Advisory Com-  
17 mittee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), the Advisory Council shall ter-  
18 minate on March 1, 2024.

19          “(f) DEFINITION OF COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY IN-  
20 STALLATION.—In this section, the term ‘communications  
21 facility installation’ has the meaning given that term in  
22 section 6409(d) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job  
23 Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1455(d)).”.