

Calendar No. 582

117TH CONGRESS }
2d Session }

SENATE

{ REPORT
117-224 }

COMPUTERS FOR VETERANS AND
STUDENTS ACT OF 2022

R E P O R T

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE

TO ACCOMPANY

H.R. 3544

TO REQUIRE THE ADMINISTRATOR OF GENERAL
SERVICES TO TRANSFER CERTAIN SURPLUS COMPUTERS
AND TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT TO NONPROFIT
COMPUTER REFURBISHERS FOR REPAIR, DISTRIBUTION,
AND RETURN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES



DECEMBER 5, 2022.—Ordered to be printed

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DECEMBER 5, 2022.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 3544]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 3544) to require the Administrator of General Services to transfer certain surplus computers and technology equipment to nonprofit computer refurbishers for repair, distribution, and return, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with amendment, in the nature of a substitute, and an amendment to the title and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

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I. PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

H.R. 3544 authorizes the Administrator of General Services to transfer certain surplus computers and technology equipment to nonprofit computer refurbishers for repair, distribution, and return. This bill intends to help bridge the digital device gap in the United States by authorizing the General Services Administration (GSA) to establish a new program through which nonprofit computer refurbishers across the country can access surplus, repairable federal

computers and technology equipment, make necessary repairs, and then distribute the computers and technology equipment to individuals in need.

II. BACKGROUND AND THE NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Digital devices are necessary for individuals to participate meaningfully in everyday life in the 21st Century. However, millions of Americans do not possess or have access to digital devices or services, and inequality associated with access to digital devices or services, such as Internet access, is generally referred to as the “digital divide.” Within the digital divide is the device gap, which refers to inequality specifically associated with access to computer or technology equipment, or not having enough devices in a household to support the needs of multiple family members.

Based on 2020 Census data, roughly 8 percent of U.S. households—approximately 10 million—do not have a computer.¹ That means that an estimated 27 million Americans do not have a connected computer at home.² Due to costs associated with new devices, the device gap adversely and disproportionately affects older, disabled, less educated, and less affluent Americans. Accordingly, individuals in one or more of these groups have difficulty or are unable to complete schoolwork, work remotely from home, access telehealth and telemedicine services, or connect to loved ones or their communities.

For example, a Pew Research Center study showed that only 59 percent of U.S. adults making less than \$30,000 annually have a desktop or laptop computer, compared to 83 percent making between \$30,000 and \$99,000 annually, and 92 percent making \$100,000 or more.³ A different Pew Research Center study found that 62 percent of surveyed U.S. adults who experience a disability have a desktop or laptop computer compared to 81 percent of surveyed U.S. adults who do not experience a disability.⁴

One study of veterans’ access to the Internet showed that 44 percent of respondents without an Internet connection were older, less educated, and earn a lower income than those with access to the Internet.⁵ The same study showed how veterans without an Internet connection rely on friends and family to access and use the Internet, including to receive medical services through the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).⁶ In recognition of older veterans’ limited access to the Internet and digital devices needed for telehealth appointments, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) launched the Digital Divide Consult in June 2022, which pairs veterans with a VA social worker who can advise the veteran on what

¹U.S. Census Bureau, *American Community Survey 2020 5-Year Subject Tables: Types of Computers and Internet Subscriptions* (2020), <https://data.census.gov/table?q=United+States+internet&tid=ACSST5Y2020.S2801>; U.S. Census Bureau, *Quick Facts* (accessed Nov. 30, 2022), <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/US/HCN010217>.

²*Id.*

³Emily A. Vogels, *Digital divide persists even as Americans with lower incomes make gains in tech adoption*, Pew Research Center (June 22, 2021), <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/06/22/digital-divide-persists-even-as-americans-with-lower-incomes-make-gains-in-tech-adoption/>.

⁴Andrew Perrin & Sara Atske, *Americans with disabilities less likely than those without to own some digital devices*, Pew Research Center (Sept. 10, 2021).

⁵Tana M. Luger, et al., *Older Veterans Digital Disparities: Examining the Potential for Solutions Within Social Networks*, J. Med. Internet Res. (Nov. 23, 2016), <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5143468/>.

⁶*Id.*

Internet or technology access programs for which they may qualify.⁷

The impact of the device gap was particularly felt by students during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the Pew Research Center, in April 2020, 59 percent of U.S. parents with lower incomes (those making less than \$40,100 annually) reported that their children would face challenges doing schoolwork virtually because they did not have access to the Internet, did not have a computer at home, or would be required to do their homework on a cellphone.⁸ In that same survey, 92 percent of the parents who anticipated that their children would experience one or more of these challenges said that schools should provide devices to at least some students.⁹ And 80 percent of parents who did not think that their children would experience challenges associated with limited access to a computer or the Internet agreed that schools should provide devices to children encountering these challenges.¹⁰

To increase digital equity, H.R. 3544, the *Computers for Veterans and Students Act*, seeks to address the lack of inventory of usable, low-cost devices available to those experiencing the device gap. The bill seeks to address that issue by tapping into the Federal government's surplus computer and technology equipment inventories.

Under title 40, United States Code, the GSA administers several programs designed to catalogue and make available surplus Federal personal property to eligible donees or buyers.¹¹ Surplus personal property includes computers and related technology.¹²

In most cases, surplus personal property is made available first to State Agencies for Surplus Property (SASPs) after being made available to other Federal agencies.¹³ SASPs are State-run hubs for acquiring and distributing Federal surplus personal property to eligible recipients, including local governments, medical institutions, schools, libraries, and senior organizations.¹⁴ H.R. 3544 acknowledges the role of the SASPs in the surplus personal property marketplace by allowing SASPs to continue to have primary access to the GSA inventory.¹⁵

While existing programs are designed to deliver computer and technology equipment to people in need, much of the available inventory requires repairs or refurbishment. These repairs can be prohibitively expensive, which may deter eligible recipients from

⁷Hans Petersen, *VA telehealth services through the Digital Divide Consult*, Veterans Health Administration Office of Communications (Jun. 14, 2022), https://news.va.gov/104490/va-telehealth-services-through-the-digital-divide-consult/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=&utm_term=&utm_content=.

⁸Emily A. Vogels, *59% of U.S. parents with lower incomes say their child may face digital obstacles in schoolwork*, Pew Research Center (Sept. 10, 2020), <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/09/10/59-of-u-s-parents-with-lower-incomes-say-their-child-may-face-digital-obstacles-in-schoolwork/>; see also Emily A. Vogels, et al., *53% of Americans Say the Internet Has Been Essential During the COVID-19 Outbreak* at 3 (Apr. 30, 2020), https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2020/04/PI_2020.04.30_COVID-internet_REPORT.pdf citing Juliana Menasce Horowitz, et al., *The American Trends Panel survey methodology*, Pew Research Center (Jan. 9, 2020), <https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2020/01/09/methodology-27/> (describing how Pew defined “lower income” for the purposes of this study).

⁹*Id.*

¹⁰*Id.*

¹¹See generally General Services Administration, *How to Acquire Surplus Federal Personal Property* (accessed Nov. 1, 2022), <https://www.gsa.gov/buy-through-us/government-property-for-sale-or-disposal/personal-property-for-reuse-sale-for-state-agencies-and-public-orgs/how-to-acquire-e-surplus-federal-personal-property>.

¹²40 U.S.C. § 102(9)–(10) (defining “property” and “surplus property,” respectively).

¹³See 40 U.S.C. § 549.

¹⁴40 U.S.C. § 549(c)(3)(A)–(C).

¹⁵H.R. 3544, as reported, § 3(a) at 549a(a) (117–2021).

participating in the programs and could ultimately prevent individuals and entities in need from accessing critical digital tools.¹⁶ In addition, no Federal program currently exists to repair or refurbish surplus computer or technology equipment before it is made available to eligible recipients to ensure that they are able to use it upon receipt. Thus, simply having access to Federal surplus does not ensure that an eligible recipient can use these critical devices. H.R. 3544 bridges the gap between the inventory and the end-user by integrating the non-profit refurbisher community into the Federal surplus personal property marketplace.

Across the U.S., non-profit technology refurbishers are working to address the device gap by increasing the supply of low-cost or no-cost computer and technology equipment.¹⁷ The refurbishers work with community-based organizations to distribute repaired and refurbished equipment to people in need and to provide training on how to use the technology.¹⁸ Critically, these refurbishers and groups could be more effective if they had greater access to the Federal government’s repairable surplus computer and technology equipment.

The *Computers for Veterans and Students Act* is designed to supplement existing donation programs, such as those facilitated by SASPs and the Computers for Learning program,¹⁹ and make them more effective by increasing the supply of usable federal surplus computers and technology equipment. It does this by requiring GSA to partner with the non-profit refurbisher community, which would be responsible for making repairs.²⁰ In turn, the non-profit refurbishers would then work within program guidelines to distribute repaired equipment to eligible recipients.²¹

Importantly, the legislation requires GSA to regulate fees that may be assessed to recipients to cover the cost of repairs. These regulations should help to ensure that these potential costs do not prevent eligible program participants from receiving federal surplus equipment through the program.²² The reported bill also adds additional security provisions to ensure that surplus property donated through the program undergoes proper sanitization and that it is only distributed through U.S.-based organizations to U.S.-based recipients.²³ The reporting requirements provide accountability to ensure that the program achieves its full impact while protecting the Federal government and program recipients from foreign adversaries.²⁴

¹⁶Emily A. Vogels, *59% of U.S. parents with lower incomes say their child may face digital obstacles in schoolwork*, Pew Research Center (Sept. 10, 2020), <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/09/10/59-of-u-s-parents-with-lower-incomes-say-their-child-may-face-digital-obstacles-in-schoolwork/>.

¹⁷Alliance for Technology Refurbishing and Reuse, *Map Locator* (accessed Nov. 1, 2022), <https://aftrr.org/map-locator/>.

¹⁸Alliance for Technology Refurbishing and Reuse, *Member Pledge* (accessed Nov. 1, 2022), <https://aftrr.org/about-us/member-pledge/>.

¹⁹S. 3897 § 6 (117–2022); Executive Order 12999, *Educational Technology: Ensuring Opportunity for All Children in the Next Century* (Apr. 19, 1996) (61 Fed. Reg. 17227); see also General Services Administration, *Computers for Learning* (accessed Nov. 1, 2022), <https://computersforlearning.gov/>.

²⁰H.R. 3544, as reported, § 3(a) at § 549a(b)(3)(A) (117–2021).

²¹H.R. 3544, as reported, § 3(a) at § 549a(b)(3)(B)–(C), (d)(3) (117–2021).

²²H.R. 3544, as reported, § 3(a) at § 549a(b)(3)(B), (d)(1) (117–2021).

²³H.R. 3544, as reported, § 3(a) at § 549a(b)(1)(B), (d)(2), (g) (117–2021).

²⁴H.R. 3544, as reported, § 3(a) at § 549a(c) (117–2021).

III. LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Representative Abigail Spanberger (D–VA) introduced H.R. 3544, the *Computers for Veterans and Students Act* on May 25, 2021. The bill was considered and ordered to be favorably reported, as amended, by the House Committee on Oversight and Reform on April 6, 2022. The bill passed the House, as amended, on July 12, 2022.

The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs considered H.R. 3544 at a business meeting on September 28, 2022. During the business meeting, a substitute amendment, as modified, was offered by Senator Hassan and was adopted by voice vote *en bloc*. The amendment as modified made several organizational, technical, and grammatical changes to H.R. 3544 to improve the bill and provide clarity based on feedback from the General Services Administration, industry stakeholders, and other Senators. A second amendment, also adopted by voice vote *en bloc*, was offered by Senator Hassan. This amendment made two changes to the official title of the bill to better reflect the bill’s contents and purpose.

The bill, as amended, was ordered reported favorably by voice vote *en bloc*, with Senators Peters, Carper, Hassan, Sinema, Rosen, Padilla, Ossoff, Portman, Johnson, Paul, Lankford, Romney, Scott, and Hawley present.

IV. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE BILL, AS REPORTED

Section 1. Short title

This section provides the short title of the bill: “Computers for Veterans and Students Act of 2022” or “COVS Act.”

Section 2. Findings

The findings describe the digital device gap in the United States, and how this bill could help address that gap through establishing partnerships between the federal government and nonprofit device refurbishers.

Section 3. Refurbishment and distribution of surplus computers and technology equipment

Subsection (a) amends subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 40, United States Code, by inserting after section 549 a new section: “549a. Donation of personal property through nonprofit refurbishers.”

Within that new section, 549a(a) authorizes the Administrator of General Services to transfer full title of surplus computer or technology equipment to nonprofit computer refurbishers who then repair and transfer full title of the equipment to eligible recipients.

549a(b) sets out what surplus equipment is eligible for transfer and that the General Services Administration is allowed to partner with nongovernmental entities to generate participation in the program by nonprofit refurbishers. In addition, it outlines the responsibilities of the nonprofit refurbishers, including repairing and distributing the equipment, as well as offering training on the use of the equipment to recipients.

549a(c) describes the reporting requirements for the nonprofit refurbishers, the Administrator of General Services, and Federal

agencies. This includes an annual report describing the activities performed under the Act.

549a(d) requires the Administrator of General Services to issue regulations to implement the program, including regulations addressing the assessment of nominal fees, establishing certification requirements for program participants, creating an efficient way to identify eligible recipients, and determining appropriate recyclers.

549a(e) limits judicial review of decisions made under the authority of the program, 549a(f) offers a rule of construction that this program does not supersede the Stevens-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980, and 549a(g) proffers definitions for the section.

Subsection (b) makes a conforming amendment to insert “549a. Donation of personal property through nonprofit refurbishers.” after section 549 of title 40, United States Code.

Section 4. Determination of budgetary effects

This section requires that the Congressional Budget Office review the legislation and submit a statement on the bill’s budgetary effects before the Senate may vote on passage, according to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010.

V. EVALUATION OF REGULATORY IMPACT

Pursuant to the requirements of paragraph 11(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee has considered the regulatory impact of this bill and determined that the bill will have no regulatory impact within the meaning of the rules. The Committee agrees with the Congressional Budget Office’s statement that the bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

VI. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

H.R. 3544 would require the General Services Administration to transfer surplus computer equipment directly to certified nonprofit organizations that would refurbish and distribute the equipment to veterans, educational institutions, students, seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income people. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3544 would have an insignificant effect on direct spending and no effect on revenues over the 2023–2032 period. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would increase discretionary costs by an insignificant amount over the 2023–2027 period but that spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, November 9, 2022.

Hon. GARY C. PETERS,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed table summarizing estimated budgetary effects

and mandates information for some of the legislation that has been ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs during the 117th Congress.

If you wish further details, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact for each estimate is listed on the enclosed table.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director.

Enclosure.

SUMMARY ESTIMATES OF LEGISLATION ORDERED REPORTED

The Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires the Congressional Budget Office, to the extent practicable, to prepare estimates of the budgetary effects of legislation ordered reported by Congressional authorizing committees. In order to provide the Congress with as much information as possible, the attached table summarizes information about the estimated direct spending and revenue effects of some of the legislation that has been ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs during the 117th Congress. The legislation listed in this table generally would have small effects, if any, on direct spending or revenues, CBO estimates. Where possible, the table also provides information about the legislation's estimated effects on spending subject to appropriation and on intergovernmental and private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

ESTIMATED BUDGETARY EFFECTS AND MANDATES INFORMATION

Bill Number	Title	Status	Last Action	Budget Function	Direct Spending, 2023-2032	Revenues, 2023-2032	Spending Subject to Appropriation, 2023-2027	Pay-As-You-Go Procedures Apply?	Increases On-Budget Deficits Beginning in 2033?	Mandates	Contact
H.R. 3544	COVS Act	Ordered reported	09/28/22	800	Between zero and \$500,000	0	Between zero and \$500,000	Yes	No	No	Matthew Pickford

H.R. 3544 would require the General Services Administration to transfer surplus computer equipment directly to certified nonprofit organizations that would refurbish and distribute the equipment to veterans, educational institutions, students, seniors, people with disabilities, and low-income people. CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3544 would have an insignificant effect on direct spending and no effect on revenues over the 2023-2032 period. CBO estimates that implementing the bill would increase discretionary costs by an insignificant amount over the 2023-2027 period but that spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

VII. CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with paragraph 12 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows: (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in brackets, new matter is printed in *italic*, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

UNITED STATES CODE

* * * * *

**TITLE 40—PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
PROPERTY, AND WORKS**

* * * * *

**Subtitle I—Federal Property and
Administrative Services**

* * * * *

CHAPTER 5—PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

* * * * *

Subchapter III—Disposing of Property

* * * * *

Sec. 549. * * *

* * * * *

SEC. 549a. DONATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY THROUGH NON-PROFIT REFURBISHERS.

(a) *AUTHORIZATION.*—*Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Administrator provides State agencies for surplus property an opportunity to review surplus computer or technology equipment under section 549, the Administrator shall, as appropriate, transfer full title to such surplus computer or technology equipment that is determined to be eligible under subsection (b)(1) to nonprofit computer refurbishers for repair, distribution, and subsequent transfer of full title of the equipment to eligible recipients under this section.*

(b) *ELIGIBILITY, PARTICIPATION, AND DUTIES.*—

(1) *ELIGIBILITY.*—*Surplus computer or technology equipment is eligible for transfer under this section if a Federal agency determines that—*

(A) *the surplus computer or technology equipment is repairable; and*

(B) *the surplus computer or technology equipment meets the Guidelines for Media Sanitization issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST Special Publication 800–88), or any successor thereto.*

(2) *PARTICIPATION.*—*The Administrator may establish partnerships with nongovernmental entities, at no cost and through*

cooperative agreements, to facilitate the identification and participation of nonprofit computer refurbishers under this section.

(3) *DUTIES OF REFURBISHERS.*—A nonprofit computer refurbisher that receives surplus computer or technology equipment under this section shall—

(A) make necessary repairs to restore the surplus computer or technology equipment to working order;

(B) distribute the repaired surplus computer or technology equipment to eligible recipients at no cost, except to the extent—

“(i) necessary to facilitate shipping and handling of such equipment; and

“(ii) that such cost is consistent with any regulations promulgated by the Administrator under subsection (d);

(C) offer training programs on the use of the repaired computers and technology equipment for the recipients of the equipment; and

(D) use recyclers to the maximum extent practicable in the event that surplus computer or technology equipment transferred under this section cannot be repaired or reused.

(c) *REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.*—

(1) *REFURBISHER REPORTS.*—A nonprofit computer refurbisher that receives surplus computer or technology equipment under this section shall provide the Administrator with any information the Administrator determines to be necessary for required reporting—

(A) including information about the distribution of such equipment; and

(B) which shall not include any personal identifying information about the recipient of such equipment apart from whether a recipient is an educational institution, individual with disabilities, low-income individual, student, senior in need, or veteran for the purposes of eligibility under this section.

(2) *ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS.*—Annually and consistent with reporting requirements for transfers of Federal personal property to non-Federal entities, the Administrator shall submit to Congress and make publicly available a report that includes, for the period covered by the report—

(A) a description of the efforts of the Administrator under this section;

(B) a list of nongovernmental entities with which the Administrator had a partnership described in subsection (b)(2);

(C) a list of nonprofit computer refurbishers that received, made repairs to, and distributed surplus computer and technology equipment, including disclosure of any foreign ownership interest in a nonprofit computer refurbisher; and

(D) a list of donated and subsequently repaired surplus computer or technology equipment identifying—

(i) the Federal agency that donated the surplus computer or technology equipment;

(ii) *the State and county (or similar unit of local government) where the recipient is located; and*

(iii) *whether the recipient is an educational institution, individual with disabilities, low-income individual, student, senior in need, or veteran.*

(3) *AGENCY REPORTS.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section, and annually thereafter, the head of each Federal agency shall make publicly available a report on the number of pieces of repairable surplus computer or technology equipment that were sent to recycling, abandoned, or destroyed.*

(d) *REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall issue regulations that are necessary and appropriate to implement this section, including—*

(1) *allowing nonprofit computer refurbishers to assess nominal fees (which shall not exceed fair market value) on recipients of refurbished surplus computer or technology equipment to facilitate shipping and handling of the surplus computer or technology equipment;*

(2) *determining, in coordination with other relevant Federal agencies, eligibility and certification requirements for nongovernmental entities and nonprofit computer refurbishers to participate in the program established under this section, including whether the participation of a nongovernmental entity or nonprofit computer refurbisher poses any actual or potential harm to the national security interests of the United States;*

(3) *establishing an efficient process for identifying eligible recipients; and*

(4) *determining appropriate recyclers to dispose of surplus computer or technology equipment if it cannot be repaired or refurbished under this section.*

(e) *JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to create any substantive or procedural right or benefit enforceable by law by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or its employees.*

(f) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to supersede the requirements of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (Public Law 96-480; 15 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.).*

(g) *DEFINITIONS.—In this section:*

(1) *ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Administrator’ means the Administrator of General Services.*

(2) *DIGITAL DIVIDE.—The term ‘digital divide’ means the gap between those who have an internet-connected computer and the skills to use the computer and those who do not.*

(3) *DISABILITY.—The term ‘disability’ has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102).*

(4) *EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.—The term ‘educational institution’ means—*

(A) *any public or private child care center, preschool, elementary school, secondary school, accredited institution of vocational or professional education, or institution of higher education;*

(B) in the case of an accredited institution of vocational or professional education or an institution of higher education composed of more than 1 school, college, or department that is administratively a separate unit, each such school, college, or department; and

(C) a home school (whether treated as a home school or private school for the purposes of applicable State law).

(5) **ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.**—The term ‘eligible recipient’ means an educational institution, individual with a disability, low-income individual, student, senior in need, or veteran that is residing or based in the United States.

(6) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

(7) **LOW INCOME INDIVIDUAL.**—The term ‘low-income individual’ has the meaning given that term in section 351 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 689).

(8) **NONGOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.**—The term ‘nongovernmental entity’ means an organization or group of organizations that—

(A) are not part of a Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial government; and

(B) are nonprofit computer refurbishers or other industry participants that—

(i) primarily work to improve access to information and communication technology in their mission to bridge the digital divide through coordination and oversight of computer refurbishment and repair; and

(ii) operate in the United States.

(9) **NONPROFIT COMPUTER REFURBISHER.**—The term ‘nonprofit computer refurbisher’ means a nonprofit organization that—

(A) primarily works to improve access to information and communication technology in their mission to bridge the digital divide; and

(B) operates in the United States.

(10) **NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.**—The term ‘nonprofit organization’ means an organization that is described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

(11) **REPAIRABLE.**—The term ‘repairable’ means property that is unusable in its current state but can be economically repaired.

(12) **SECONDARY SCHOOL.**—The term ‘secondary school’ has the meaning given that term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

(13) **SENIOR.**—The term ‘senior’ means an individual who is 65 years of age or older.

(14) **SENIOR IN NEED.**—The term ‘senior in need’ means a senior who experiences cultural, social, or geographical isolation that—

(A) restricts the ability of the senior to perform normal daily tasks; or

(B) threatens the capacity of the senior to live independently.

(15) *STATE AGENCY FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY.*—The term ‘State agency for surplus property’ has the meaning given the term ‘state agency’ under section 549(a).

(16) *STUDENT.*—The term ‘student’ means any individual enrolled in an educational institution, but not a public or private child care center.

(17) *SURPLUS COMPUTER OR TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT.*—The term ‘surplus computer or technology equipment’ means computer or technology equipment that is property described under section 549(b)(2).

(18) *TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT.*—The term ‘technology equipment’ means any physical asset related to a computer or information technology, including any peripheral component, tablet, communication device (such as a router, server, or cell phone), printer, scanner, uninterruptible power source, cable, or connection.

(19) *VETERAN.*—The term ‘veteran’ has the meaning given that term in section 101 of title 38.

