113TH CONGRESS  
2D Session  

H. R. ______

To include reasonable costs for high-speed Internet service in the utility allowances for families residing in public housing, and for other purposes.

A BILL

To include reasonable costs for high-speed Internet service in the utility allowances for families residing in public housing, 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 “Closing the Digital
5 Divide for Students Act of 2014”.
SEC. 2. INCLUSION OF HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SERVICE IN PUBLIC HOUSING UTILITY ALLOWANCES FOR CERTAIN FAMILIES.

Subsection (b) of section 3 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(14) UTILITY ALLOWANCE.—A utility allowance under this Act for public housing shall include costs for high-speed Internet service, subject to the following limitations:

“(A) COST.—The cost included in a utility allowance for a public housing dwelling unit pursuant to this paragraph shall not—

“(i) exceed the lowest cost available in the area of such housing for such high-speed Internet service; and

“(ii) include any costs for cable or satellite television service or for joint packages for Internet service together with cable or satellite television service.

“(B) QUALIFIED FAMILIES.—Costs for high-speed Internet service may be included in a utility allowance only for a household that incurs such costs and includes children who qualify for free and reduced price lunch pursuant to
section 9 of the Richard B. Russell National

“(C) PROTECTION OF MINORS.—Costs for
high-speed Internet service may be included in
a utility allowance for a household only if the
Internet service provider, upon initial provision
of such service for a household, provides the
household with a specific technology capable of
blocking or filtering Internet access to visual
depictions described in section 254(h)(5)(B)(i)
of the Communications Act of 1937 (47 U.S.C.
254(h)(5)(B)(i)) that provides a level of protec-
tion against access by minors to such depictions
through the Internet that is at least as great as
the level of protection provided by a technology
protection measure (as such term is defined in
paragraph (7) of such section 254(h)) that
meets the requirements for certification under
such paragraph, as determined by the Sec-
retary.”.