106TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R.3011

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to improve the disclosure of information concerning telephone charges, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

October 5, 1999

Mr. BLILEY (for himself and Mr. TAUZIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

- To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to improve the disclosure of information concerning telephone charges, 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 "Truth in Telephone

5 Billing Act of 1999".

6 SEC. 2. TELEPHONE BILLING PRACTICES.

7 (a) AMENDMENT.—Section 258 of the Communica-

8 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 258) is amended by adding

9 at the end the following new subsection:

1 "(c) TRUTH-IN-BILLING.—A telecommunications 2 carrier that is required to contribute to, or that is other-3 wise assessed for, any support mechanism under section 4 254, or any other governmental mechanism, fund, tax, or 5 program, shall identify on each subscriber's bill—

6 "(1) the identity of the governmental mecha-7 nism, fund, tax, or program to which the contribu-8 tion or assessment is made, and the identity of the 9 governmental authority whose rules require or au-10 thorize the contribution or assessment;

"(2) the basis for the contribution or assessment (such as per subscriber, per line, or percentage
of some or all charges or revenues); and

"(3) as a separate line-item, the dollar amount
that is being attributed to and collected from such
subscriber for such governmental mechanism, fund,
tax, or program.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 258 is further amended by striking the designation and heading of
such section and inserting the following:

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21 "SEC. 258. BILLING PRACTICES.".