

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5294

To require the Federal Communications Commission to completely and accurately fulfill the support requirements for universal service for high cost areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2000

Mr. DEAL of Georgia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to completely and accurately fulfill the support requirements for universal service for high cost areas, 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 “Universal Service Suf-
5 ficiency Act of 2000”.

1 **SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF IMPEDIMENTS TO SUFFICIENT SUP-**
2 **PORT MECHANISMS.**

3 Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 is
4 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
5 section:

6 “(1) REMOVAL OF IMPEDIMENTS TO SUFFICIENT
7 SUPPORT MECHANISMS.—

8 “(1) REMOVAL OF INTERIM CAP ON HIGH COST
9 SUPPORT MECHANISMS.—The interim cap on total
10 nationwide loop cost expense adjustments contained
11 in section 36.601(e) of the Federal Communications
12 Commission’s regulations (47 CFR 36.601) shall
13 cease to be effective on the date of enactment of the
14 Universal Service Sufficiency Act of 2000. The Fed-
15 eral Communications Commission shall not, on or
16 after such date of enactment, enforce or reimpose
17 such cap.

18 “(2) REMOVAL OF INTERIM CAPS ON INDI-
19 VIDUAL CARRIERS.—The Federal Communications
20 Commission shall not—

21 “(A) enforce individual caps imposed on
22 carriers by orders of the Commission entered in
23 connection with requests prior to the date of en-
24 actment of the Universal Service Sufficiency
25 Act of 2000 for study area waivers; or

1 “(B) impose any new cap that would limit
2 the per loop support calculated under section
3 36.631 of the Commission’s regulations (47
4 CFR 36.631), as in effect on the date of enact-
5 ment of such Act.

6 “(3) HIGH COST LOOP SUPPORT AND NATION-
7 WIDE AVERAGE CALCULATIONS.—The Federal Com-
8 munications Commission shall—

9 “(A) calculate that portion of the high cost
10 support mechanism attributable to loops that
11 have costs that are in excess of 115 percent of
12 the nationwide average under section 36.631 of
13 the Commission’s regulations (47 CFR 36.631),
14 as in effect on the date of enactment of the
15 Universal Service Sufficiency Act of 2000; and

16 “(B) calculate the nationwide average
17 unseparated loop cost for purposes of sections
18 36.621(a)(1)–(3) and 36.622 of those regula-
19 tions (47 CFR 36.621(a)(1)–(3) and 36.622),
20 as in effect on such date of enactment of such
21 Act, taking into account the elimination of the
22 interim cap on total nationwide loop cost ex-
23 pense adjustments pursuant to paragraph (1) of
24 this subsection.”.

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