Calendar No. 262

106TH CONGRESS **S. 97** IST SESSION **S. 97** [Report No. 106–141]

A BILL

To require the installation and use by schools and libraries of a technology for filtering or blocking material on the Internet on computers with Internet access to be eligible to receive or retain universal service assistance.

August 5, 1999

Reported with an amendment

Calendar No. 262

106TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION



[Report No. 106–141]

To require the installation and use by schools and libraries of a technology for filtering or blocking material on the Internet on computers with Internet access to be eligible to receive or retain universal service assistance.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 19, 1999

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. BURNS, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. STEVENS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. HELMS, and Mr. BOND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

August 5, 1999

Reported by Mr. MCCAIN, with an amendment

[Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To require the installation and use by schools and libraries of a technology for filtering or blocking material on the Internet on computers with Internet access to be eligible to receive or retain universal service assistance.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the "Childrens' Internet
3 Protection Act".

4 SEC. 2. NO UNIVERSAL SERVICE FOR SCHOOLS OR LIBRAR5 IES THAT FAIL TO IMPLEMENT A FILTERING
6 OR BLOCKING TECHNOLOGY FOR COM7 PUTERS WITH INTERNET ACCESS.

8 (a) IN GENERAL. Section 254 of the Communica9 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) is amended by adding
10 at the end thereof the following:

11 "(l) IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INTERNET FILTERING
12 OR BLOCKING TECHNOLOGY.—

13 "(1) IN GENERAL.—An elementary school, see-14 ondary school, or library that fails to provide the 15 certification required by paragraph (2) or (3), re-16 spectively, is not eligible to receive or retain uni-17 versal service assistance provided under subsection 18 (h)(1)(B).

19 "(2) CERTIFICATION FOR SCHOOLS.—To be eli-20 gible to receive universal service assistance under 21 subsection (h)(1)(B), an elementary or secondary 22 school (or the school board or other authority with 23 responsibility for administration of that school) shall 24 certify to the Commission that it has—

1	"(A) selected a technology for computers
2	with Internet access to filter or block material
3	deemed to be harmful to minors; and
4	"(B) installed, or will install, and uses or
5	will use, as soon as it obtains computers with
6	Internet access, a technology to filter or block
7	such material.
8	"(3) Certification for Libraries.—
9	"(A) LIBRARIES WITH MORE THAN 1
10	INTERNET-ACCESSING COMPUTER.—To be eligi-
11	ble to receive universal service assistance under
12	subsection (h)(1)(B), a library that has more
13	than 1 computer with Internet access intended
14	for use by the public (including minors) shall
15	certify to the Commission that it has installed
16	and uses a technology to filter or block material
17	deemed to be harmful to minors on one or more
18	of its computers with Internet access.
19	"(B) LIBRARIES WITH ONLY 1 INTERNET-
20	ACCESSING COMPUTER.—A library that has
21	only 1 computer with Internet access intended
22	for use by the public (including minors) is eligi-
23	ble to receive universal service assistance under
24	subsection (h)(1)(B) even if it does not use a

technology to filter or block material deemed to

1	be harmful to minors on that computer if it cer-
2	tifies to the Commission that it employs a rea-
3	sonably effective alternative means to keep mi-
4	nors from accessing material on the Internet
5	that is deemed to be harmful to minors.
6	"(4) TIME FOR CERTIFICATION.—The certifi-
7	cation required by paragraph (2) or (3) shall be
8	made within 30 days of the date of enactment of the
9	Childrens' Internet Protection Act, or, if later, with-
10	in 10 days of the date on which any computer with
11	access to the Internet is first made available in the
12	school or library for its intended use.
13	${}$ (5) Notification of cessation; addi-
14	TIONAL INTERNET-ACCESSING COMPUTER.
15	"(A) CESSATION.—A library that has filed
16	the certification required by paragraph $(3)(A)$
17	shall notify the Commission within 10 days
18	after the date on which it ceases to use the fil-
19	tering or blocking technology to which the cer-
20	tification related.
21	"(B) Additional Internet-accessing
22	COMPUTER.—A library that has filed the certifi-
23	cation required by paragraph $(3)(B)$ that adds
24	another computer with Internet access intended
25	for use by the public (including minors) shall

1	make the certification required by paragraph
2	(3)(A) within 10 days after that computer is
3	made available for use by the public.
4	"(6) Penalty for failure to comply.—A
5	school or library that fails to meet the requirements
6	of this subsection is liable to repay immediately the
7	full amount of all universal service assistance it re-
8	$\frac{\text{ceived under subsection (h)(1)(B).}}{(h)(1)(B)}$
9	${}$ (7) Local determination of material to
10	BE FILTERED.—For purposes of paragraphs (2) and
11	(3), the determination of what material is to be
12	deemed harmful to minors shall be made by the
13	school, school board, library or other authority re-
14	sponsible for making the required certification. No
15	agency or instrumentality of the United States Gov-
16	ernment may—
17	"(A) establish criteria for making that de-
18	termination;
19	${(B)}$ review the determination made by the
20	certifying school, school board, library, or other
21	authority; or
22	$\frac{((C)}{(C)}$ consider the criteria employed by the
23	certifying school, school board, library, or other
24	authority in the administration of subsection
25	(h)(1)(B).".

1 (b) CONFORMING CHANGE.—Section 254(h)(1)(B) of 2 the Communications Act of 1934(47)U.S.C. 254(h)(1)(B)) is amended by striking "All telecommuni-3 4 cations" and inserting "Except as provided by subsection (1), all telecommunications". 5

6 SEC. 3. FCC TO ADOPT RULES WITHIN 4 MONTHS.

7 The Federal Communications Commission shall 8 adopt rules implementing section 254(l) of the Commu-9 nications Act of 1934 within 120 days after the date of 10 enactment of this Act.

11 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

12 This Act may be cited as the "Childrens' Internet Pro-13 tection Act".

14 SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES TO
15 IMPLEMENT FILTERING OR BLOCKING TECH16 NOLOGY FOR COMPUTERS WITH INTERNET
17 ACCESS AS CONDITION OF UNIVERSAL SERV18 ICE DISCOUNTS.
19 (a) SCHOOLS.—Section 254(h) of the Communications

(a) SCHOOLS.—Section 254(h) of the Communications
Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254(h)) is amended—

21 (1) by redesignating paragraph (5) as para22 graph (7); and

23 (2) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol24 lowing new paragraph (5):

1	"(5) Requirements for certain schools
2	WITH COMPUTERS HAVING INTERNET ACCESS.—
3	"(A) INTERNET FILTERING.—
4	"(i) In general.—Except as provided
5	in clause (ii), an elementary or secondary
6	school having computers with Internet ac-
7	cess may not receive services at discount
8	rates under paragraph $(1)(B)$ unless the
9	school, school board, or other authority with
10	responsibility for administration of the
11	school—
12	"(I) submits to the Commission a
13	certification described in subparagraph
14	(B); and
15	((II) ensures the use of such com-
16	puters in accordance with the certifi-
17	cation.
18	"(ii) Applicability.—The prohibition
19	in paragraph (1) shall not apply with re-
20	spect to a school that receives services at
21	discount rates under paragraph $(1)(B)$ only
22	for purposes other than the provision of
23	Internet access, Internet service, or internal
24	connections.

1	"(B) CERTIFICATION.—A certification
2	under this subparagraph is a certification that
3	the school, school board, or other authority with
4	responsibility for administration of the school—
5	((i) has selected a technology for its
6	computers with Internet access in order to
7	filter or block Internet access through such
8	computers to—
9	((I) material that is obscene; and
10	"(II) child pornography; and
11	"(ii) is enforcing a policy to ensure the
12	operation of the technology during any use
13	of such computers by minors.
14	"(C) Additional use of technology.—A
15	school, school board, or other authority may also
16	use a technology covered by a certification under
17	subparagraph (B) to filter or block Internet ac-
18	cess through the computers concerned to any ma-
19	terial in addition to the material specified in
20	that subparagraph that the school, school board,
21	or other authority determines to be inappro-
22	priate for minors.
23	"(D) TIMING OF CERTIFICATIONS.—
24	"(i) Schools with computers on
25	EFFECTIVE DATE.—

1	"(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to
2	subclause (II), in the case of any school
3	covered by this paragraph as of the ef-
4	fective date of this paragraph under
5	section 2(h) of the Childrens' Internet
6	Protection Act, the certification under
7	subparagraph (B) $shall$ be made not
8	later than 30 days after such effective
9	date.
10	"(II) Delay.—A certification for
11	a school covered by subclause (I) may
12	be made at a date that is later than is
13	otherwise required by that subclause if
14	State or local procurement rules or reg-
15	ulations or competitive bidding re-
16	quirements prevent the making of the
17	certification on the date otherwise re-
18	quired by that subclause. A school,
19	school board, or other authority with
20	responsibility for administration of the
21	school shall notify the Commission of
22	the applicability of this subclause to
23	the school. Such notice shall specify the
24	date on which the certification with re-

1	
1	spect to the school shall be effective for
2	purposes of this clause.
3	"(ii) Schools acquiring computers
4	AFTER EFFECTIVE DATE.—In the case of
5	any school that first becomes covered by this
6	paragraph after such effective date, the cer-
7	tification under subparagraph (B) shall be
8	made not later than 10 days after the date
9	on which the school first becomes so covered.
10	"(iii) No requirement for addi-
11	TIONAL CERTIFICATIONS.—A school that has
12	submitted a certification under subpara-
13	graph (B) shall not be required for purposes
14	of this paragraph to submit an additional
15	certification under that subparagraph with
16	respect to any computers having Internet
17	access that are acquired by the school after
18	the submittal of the certification.
19	"(E) Noncompliance.—
20	"(i) Failure to submit certifi-
21	CATION.—Any school that knowingly fails to
22	submit a certification required by this
23	paragraph shall reimburse each tele-
24	communications carrier that provided such
25	school services at discount rates under para-

1	graph $(1)(B)$ after the effective date of this
2	paragraph under section 2(h) of the Chil-
3	drens' Internet Protection Act in an
4	amount equal to the amount of the discount
5	provided such school by such carrier for
6	such services during the period beginning
7	on such effective date and ending on the
8	date on which the provision of such services
9	at discount rates under paragraph $(1)(B)$ is
10	determined to cease under subparagraph
11	(F).
12	"(ii) Failure to comply with cer-
13	TIFICATION.—Any school that knowingly
14	fails to ensure the use of its computers in
15	accordance with a certification under sub-
16	paragraph (B) shall reimburse each tele-
17	communications carrier that provided such
18	school services at discount rates under para-
19	graph $(1)(B)$ after the date of such certifi-
20	cation in an amount equal to the amount of
21	the discount provided such school by such
22	carrier for such services during the period
23	beginning on the date of such certification
24	and ending on the date on which the provi-
25	sion of such services at discount rates under

1	paragraph $(1)(B)$ is determined to cease
2	under subparagraph (F).
3	"(iii) TREATMENT OF REIMBURSE-
4	MENT.—The receipt by a telecommuni-
5	cations carrier of any reimbursement under
6	this subparagraph shall not affect the car-
7	rier's treatment of the discount on which
8	such reimbursement was based in accord-
9	ance with the third sentence of paragraph
10	(1)(B).
11	"(F) CESSATION DATE.—
12	"(i) Determination.—The Commis-
13	sion shall determine the date on which the
14	provision of services at discount rates under
15	paragraph (1)(B) shall cease under this
16	paragraph by reason of the failure of a
17	school to comply with the requirements of
18	this paragraph.
19	"(ii) Notification.—The Commission
20	shall notify telecommunications carriers of
21	each school determined to have failed to
22	comply with the requirements of this para-
23	graph and of the period for which such
24	school shall be liable to make reimbursement
25	under subparagraph (E).

1	"(G) Recommencement of discounts.—
2	"(i) Recommencement.—Upon sub-
3	mittal to the Commission of a certification
4	under subparagraph (B) with respect to a
5	school to which clause (i) or (ii) of subpara-
6	graph (E) applies, the school shall be enti-
7	tled to services at discount rates under
8	paragraph (1)(B).
9	"(ii) NOTIFICATION.—The Commission
10	shall notify the school and telecommuni-
11	cations carriers of the recommencement of
12	the school's entitlement to services at dis-
13	count rates under this subparagraph and of
14	the date on which such recommencement be-
15	gins.
16	"(iii) Additional noncompliance.—
17	The provisions of subparagraphs (E) and
18	(F) shall apply to any certification sub-
19	mitted under clause (i).
20	"(H) Limitation on Federal Action.—
21	"(i) In general.—No agency or in-
22	strumentality of the United States Govern-
23	ment may—

1

``(I) establish any criteria for

2	making a determination under sub-
3	paragraph (C);
4	"(II) review a determination
5	made by a school, school board, or
6	other authority for purposes of a cer-
7	tification under subparagraph (B) ; or
8	"(III) consider the criteria em-
9	ployed by a school, school board, or
10	other authority for purposes of deter-
11	mining the eligibility of a school for
12	services at discount rates under para-
13	graph (1)(B).
14	"(ii) ACTION BY COMMISSION.—The
15	Commission may not take any action
16	against a school, school board, or other au-
17	thority for a violation of a provision of this
18	paragraph if the school, school board, or
19	other authority, as the case may be, has
20	made a good faith effort to comply with
21	such provision.".
22	(b) LIBRARIES.—Such section 254(h) is further

22 (6) LIBRARIES.—Such section 254(h) is further
23 amended by inserting after paragraph (5), as amended by
24 subsection (a) of this section, the following new paragraph:

1	"(6) Requirements for certain libraries
2	WITH COMPUTERS HAVING INTERNET ACCESS.—
3	"(A) INTERNET FILTERING.—
4	"(i) IN GENERAL.—A library having
5	one or more computers with Internet access
6	may not receive services at discount rates
7	under $paragraph$ $(1)(B)$ $unless$ the
8	library—
9	"(I) submits to the Commission a
10	$certification\ described\ in\ subparagraph$
11	(B); and
12	"(II) ensures the use of such com-
13	puters in accordance with the certifi-
14	cation.
15	"(ii) Applicability.—The prohibition
16	in paragraph (1) shall not apply with re-
17	spect to a library that receives services at
18	discount rates under paragraph $(1)(B)$ only
19	for purposes other than the provision of
20	Internet access, Internet service, or internal
21	connections.
22	"(B) Certifications.—
23	"(i) LIBRARIES WITH ONE COMPUTER
24	HAVING INTERNET ACCESS.—A certification
25	under this subparagraph with respect to a

1	library that has only one computer with
2	Internet access is a certification that the li-
3	brary is enforcing a policy to ensure that
4	minors do not use the computer for Internet
5	access to—
6	"(I) material that is obscene; and
7	"(II) child pornography.
8	"(ii) LIBRARIES WITH MORE THAN
9	ONE COMPUTER HAVING INTERNET AC-
10	CESS.—A certification under this subpara-
11	graph with respect to any library covered
12	by this paragraph, and not covered by
13	clause (i), is a certification that the
14	library—
15	``(I) has selected a technology for
16	its computers with Internet access in
17	order to filter or block Internet access
18	through such computers to—
19	"(aa) material that is ob-
20	scene; and
21	"(bb) child pornography; and
22	"(II) is enforcing a policy to en-
23	sure the operation of the technology
24	during any use of such computers by
25	minors.

1	"(C) Additional use of technology.—A
2	library may also use a technology covered by a
3	certification under subparagraph (B) to filter or
4	block Internet access through the computers con-
5	cerned to any material in addition to the mate-
6	rial specified in that subparagraph that the li-
7	brary determines to be inappropriate for minors.
8	"(D) TIMING OF CERTIFICATIONS.—
9	"(i) Libraries with computers on
10	EFFECTIVE DATE.—
11	"(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case of
12	any library covered by this paragraph
13	as of the effective date of this para-
14	graph under section 2(h) of the Chil-
15	drens' Internet Protection Act, the ap-
16	plicable certification under subpara-
17	graph (B) shall be made not later than
18	30 days after such effective date.
19	"(II) Delay.—A certification for
20	a library covered by subclause (I) may
21	be made at a date than is later than
22	is otherwise required by that subclause
23	if State or local procurement rules or
24	regulations or competitive bidding re-
25	quirements prevent the making of the

1	certification on the date otherwise re-
2	quired by that subclause. A library
3	shall notify the Commission of the ap-
4	plicability of this subclause to the li-
5	brary. Such notice shall specify the
6	date on which the certification with re-
7	spect to the library shall be effective for
8	purposes of this clause.
9	"(ii) LIBRARIES ACQUIRING COM-
10	PUTERS AFTER EFFECTIVE DATE.—In the
11	case of any library that first becomes subject
12	to a certification under either clause (i) or
13	(ii) of subparagraph (B) after such effective
14	date, the applicable certification under that
15	subparagraph shall be made not later than
16	10 days after the date on which the library
17	first becomes so subject.
18	"(iii) NO REQUIREMENT FOR ADDI-
19	TIONAL CERTIFICATIONS.—A library that
20	has submitted a certification under sub-
21	paragraph $(B)(ii)$ shall not be required for
22	purposes of this paragraph to submit an ad-
23	ditional certification under that subpara-
24	graph with respect to any computers having
25	Internet access that are acquired by the li-

1	brary after the submittal of such certifi-
2	cation.
3	"(E) Noncompliance.—
4	"(i) FAILURE TO SUBMIT CERTIFI-
5	CATION.—Any library that knowingly fails
6	to submit a certification required by this
7	paragraph shall reimburse each tele-
8	communications carrier that provided such
9	library services at discount rates under
10	paragraph $(1)(B)$ after the effective date of
11	this paragraph under section 2(h) of the
12	Childrens' Internet Protection Act in an
13	amount equal to the amount of the discount
14	provided such library by such carrier for
15	such services during the period beginning
16	on such effective date and ending on the
17	date on which the provision of such services
18	at discount rates under paragraph $(1)(B)$ is
19	determined to cease under subparagraph
20	(F).
21	"(ii) Failure to comply with cer-
22	TIFICATION.—Any library that knowingly
23	fails to ensure the use of its computers in
24	accordance with a certification under sub-
25	paragraph (B) shall reimburse each tele-

1	communications carrier that provided such
2	library services at discount rates under
3	paragraph $(1)(B)$ after the date of such cer-
4	tification in an amount equal to the
5	amount of the discount provided such li-
6	brary by such carrier for such services dur-
7	ing the period beginning on the date of such
8	certification and ending on the date on
9	which the provision of such services at dis-
10	count rates under paragraph $(1)(B)$ is de-
11	termined to cease under subparagraph (F) .
12	"(iii) TREATMENT OF REIMBURSE-
13	MENT.—The receipt by a telecommuni-
14	cations carrier of any reimbursement under
15	this subparagraph shall not affect the car-
16	rier's treatment of the discount on which
17	such reimbursement was based in accord-
18	ance with the third sentence of paragraph
19	(1)(B).
20	"(F) CESSATION DATE.—
21	"(i) Determination.—The Commis-
22	sion shall determine the date on which the
23	provision of services at discount rates under
24	paragraph (1)(B) shall cease under this
25	paragraph by reason of the failure of a li-

1	brary to comply with the requirements of
2	this paragraph.
3	"(ii) NOTIFICATION.—The Commission
4	shall notify telecommunications carriers of
5	each library determined to have failed to
6	comply with the requirements of this para-
7	graph and of the period for which such li-
8	brary shall be liable to make reimbursement
9	under subparagraph (E).
10	"(G) Recommencement of discounts.—
11	"(i) Recommencement.—Upon sub-
12	mittal to the Commission of a certification
13	under subparagraph (B) with respect to a
14	library to which clause (i) or (ii) of sub-
15	paragraph (E) applies, the library shall be
16	entitled to services at discount rates under
17	paragraph (1)(B).
18	"(ii) NOTIFICATION.—The Commission
19	shall notify the library and telecommuni-
20	cations carriers of the recommencement of
21	the library's entitlement to services at dis-
22	count rates under this paragraph and of the
23	date on which such recommencement begins.
24	"(iii) Additional noncompliance.—
25	The provisions of subparagraphs (E) and

1	(F) shall apply to any certification sub-
2	mitted under clause (i).
3	"(H) Limitation on Federal Action.—
4	"(i) In general.—No agency or in-
5	strumentality of the United States Govern-
6	ment may—
7	``(I) establish any criteria for
8	making a determination under sub-
9	paragraph (C);
10	"(II) review a determination
11	made by a library for purposes of a
12	certification under subparagraph (B) ;
13	or
14	"(III) consider the criteria em-
15	ployed by a library purposes of deter-
16	mining the eligibility of the library for
17	services at discount rates under para-
18	graph (1)(B).
19	"(ii) ACTION BY COMMISSION.—The
20	Commission may not take any action
21	against a library for a violation of a provi-
22	sion of this paragraph if the library has
23	made a good faith effort to comply with
24	such provision.".

(c) MINOR DEFINED.—Paragraph (7) of such section,
 as redesignated by subsection (a)(1) of this section, is
 amended by adding at the end the following:

4 "(D) MINOR.—The term 'minor' means any
5 individual who has not attained the age of 17
6 years.".

7 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (4) of
8 such section is amended by striking "paragraph (5)(A)"
9 and inserting "paragraph (7)(A)".

10 (e) SEPARABILITY.—If any provision of paragraph (5) 11 or (6) of section 254(h) of the Communications Act of 1934, 12 as amended by this section, or the application thereof to 13 any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder 14 of such paragraph and the application of such paragraph 15 to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected there-16 by.

17 (f) REGULATIONS.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Federal Communications Commission shall prescribe regulations for purposes of administering the provisions of paragraphs
(5) and (6) of section 254(h) of the Communications
Act of 1934, as amended by this section.

23 (2) DEADLINE.—Notwithstanding any other pro24 vision of law, the requirements prescribed under

paragraph (1) shall take effect 120 days after the date
 of the enactment of this Act.

3 (g) AVAILABILITY OF RATES.—Discounted rates under
4 section 254(h)(1)(B) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47)
5 U.S.C. 254(h)(1)(B))—

6 (1) shall be available in amounts up to the an-7 nual cap on Federal universal service support for 8 schools and libraries only for services covered by Fed-9 eral Communications Commission regulations on pri-10 orities for funding telecommunications services, Inter-11 net access, Internet services, and Internet connections 12 that assign priority for available funds for the poorest 13 schools: and

(2) to the extent made available under paragraph (1), may be used for the purchase or aquisition
of filtering or blocking products necessary to meet the
requirements of section 254(h)(5) and (6) of that Act,
but not for the purchase of software or other technology other than what is required to meet those requirements.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this
section shall take effect 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.