

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2982

To require the Federal Communications Commission to reorganize the bureaus of the Commission in order to better carry out their regulatory functions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 17, 2005

Mr. WYNN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to reorganize the bureaus of the Commission in order to better carry out their regulatory functions.

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 “FCC Reorganization
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Communications Act of 1934 grants
9 the Federal Communications Commission permission
10 to organize “integrated bureaus” and “other divi-

1 sional organizations” for the purpose of assisting the
2 Commission in its principal workload.

3 (2) The Federal Communications Commission
4 originally created and organized its bureaus at a
5 time when individual companies offered single, dis-
6 creet telecommunications services.

7 (3) New communications technologies enable a
8 single company to offer a variety of services (such
9 as cable companies offering video, voice, and data).

10 (4) The organization of the Federal Commu-
11 nications Commission’s bureaus based on the type of
12 technology is an obsolete model and is no longer rel-
13 evant since new technologies provide multiple serv-
14 ices.

15 **SEC. 3. REGULATORY FUNCTION AND STRUCTURE OF THE**
16 **FCC.**

17 Subsection (b) of section 5 of the Communications
18 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 155(b)) is amended to read as
19 follows:

20 “(b) STAFF ORGANIZATION.—

21 “(1) AUTHORITY TO ORGANIZE.—The Commis-
22 sion shall—

23 “(A) except as provided in paragraph (3),
24 establish and maintain the bureaus required by
25 paragraph (2); and

1 “(B) organize the remainder of its staff
2 into—

3 “(i) integrated bureaus based on the
4 purposes of the regulation to be adminis-
5 tered by such bureau; and

6 “(ii) such other divisional organiza-
7 tions as the Commission may deem nec-
8 essary.

9 “(2) REQUIRED DIVISIONS.—Except as pro-
10 vided in paragraph (3), the Commission shall estab-
11 lish and maintain the following bureaus and divi-
12 sions:

13 “(A) SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT BUREAU.—
14 A Spectrum Management Bureau with respon-
15 sibility for all issues relating to electromagnetic
16 spectrum, including spectrum allocation, spec-
17 trum interference regulations, unlicensed user
18 regulations, and other general spectrum regula-
19 tions.

20 “(B) GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS AND CON-
21 SUMER EDUCATION BUREAU.—A Government
22 Affairs and Consumer Education Bureau with
23 responsibility for all issues relating to govern-
24 ment relations and consumer education includ-
25 ing consumer affairs and outreach, consumer

1 inquiries and complaints, information access
2 and privacy, policy, reference information cen-
3 ter, and consumer publications.

4 “(C) ECONOMIC REGULATIONS BUREAU.—
5 An Economic Regulation Bureau with responsi-
6 bility for all issues relating to economic regula-
7 tions, including intercarrier compensation, pric-
8 ing regulations, and media ownership regula-
9 tions, and the Universal Service Fund/E-rate
10 program.

11 “(D) PUBLIC INTEREST BUREAU.—A Pub-
12 lic Interest Bureau with responsibility for all
13 issues relating to public interest programs, such
14 as Disabled Services, E-911 regulations, and
15 requirements under the Communications Assist-
16 ance for Law Enforcement Act.

17 “(E) BROADCAST CONTENT BUREAU.—A
18 Broadcast Content Bureau with responsibility
19 for all issues relating to broadcast content, in-
20 cluding broadcast decency and child-friendly tel-
21 evision.

22 “(F) LICENSING BUREAU.—A Licensing
23 Bureau with responsibility for all issues relating
24 to licensing, including spectrum auctions and li-
25 cense renewal

1 “(G) ENFORCEMENT BUREAU.—An En-
2 forcement Bureau with the same responsibilities
3 such Bureau had on the date of enactment of
4 the FCC Reorganization Act.

5 “(H) INTERNATIONAL BUREAU.—An
6 International Bureau with the same responsibil-
7 ities such Bureau had on the date of enactment
8 of the FCC Reorganization Act.

9 “(3) PERIODIC RE-EXAMINATION.—The Com-
10 mission shall, at least once after each 5-year interval
11 after the date of enactment of the FCC Reorganiza-
12 tion Act—

13 “(A) re-examine the organization of the
14 bureaus established under subparagraph (A)
15 and (B)(i) of paragraph (1) to determine
16 whether such organization continues to meet
17 the requirements and needs of the Commission;
18 and

19 “(B) carry out any reorganization that the
20 Commission determines to be necessary to meet
21 the requirements and needs of the Commission.

22 “(4) BUREAU STAFFING.—Each bureau estab-
23 lished under subparagraph (A) and (B)(i) of para-
24 graph (1) shall include such legal, engineering, ac-
25 counting, administrative, clerical, and other per-

1 sonnel as the Commission may determine to be nec-
2 essary to perform its functions.”.

3 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE; TRANSITION.**

4 The amendment made by section 3 is effective 18
5 months after the date of enactment of this Act, except
6 that the Federal Communications Commission is author-
7 ized and required to take actions to begin implementation
8 of, and compliance with, such amendment on such date
9 of enactment.

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