

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 734

To provide for the equitable distribution of Universal Service funds to rural States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 12, 2015

Ms. AYOTTE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To provide for the equitable distribution of Universal Service funds to rural States.

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 “USF Equitable Dis-
5 tribution Act of 2015”.

6 **SEC. 2. DISTRIBUTION OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUNDS.**

7 Section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
8 U.S.C. 254) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

1 “(m) DISTRIBUTION OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE
2 FUNDS.—

3 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not less than 75 percent of
4 all amounts collected by providers of interstate tele-
5 communications from consumers in a rural State for
6 the purpose of making contributions under sub-
7 section (d) shall be allocated to the provision of uni-
8 versal service to consumers in that rural State.

9 “(2) RURAL STATE.—In this subsection, the
10 term ‘rural State’ means a State in which the total
11 population density is not more than 200 people per
12 square mile, as determined by the latest available
13 decennial census conducted under section 141(a) of
14 title 13, United States Code.

15 “(3) AMOUNTS COLLECTED.—Nothing in this
16 subsection shall be construed as requiring an in-
17 crease in amounts collected by providers of inter-
18 state telecommunications from consumers for the
19 purpose of making contributions under subsection
20 (d).”.

○