

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3546

To prohibit universal service support of commercial mobile service and commercial mobile data service through the Lifeline program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2017

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. POSEY, Mr. FLORES, Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. BABIN, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. COOK, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. BRAT, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. DUNN, Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, and Mr. CRAWFORD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To prohibit universal service support of commercial mobile service and commercial mobile data service through the Lifeline program.

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 “End Taxpayer Funded
5 Cell Phones Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON LIFELINE SUPPORT FOR MOBILE**
2 **SERVICE.**

3 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Beginning on January 1, 2018,
4 a provider of commercial mobile service or commercial mo-
5 bile data service may not receive universal service support
6 under sections 214(e) and 254 of the Communications Act
7 of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 214(e); 254) for the provision of such
8 service through the Lifeline program of the Federal Com-
9 munications Commission.

10 (b) **CONTRIBUTIONS.**—For calendar year 2018, the
11 amount that telecommunications carriers that provide
12 interstate telecommunications services and other providers
13 of interstate telecommunications are required to con-
14 tribute under section 254(d) of the Communications Act
15 of 1934 to Federal universal service support mechanisms
16 shall be determined—

17 (1) without regard to subsection (a); and

18 (2) as if the same amount of support for the
19 provision of commercial mobile service and commer-
20 cial mobile data service through the Lifeline pro-
21 gram that is provided in calendar year 2017 is pro-
22 vided in calendar year 2018.

23 (c) **EXCESS COLLECTIONS.**—The amount collected
24 pursuant to subsection (b)(2) shall be deposited in the
25 general fund of the Treasury of the United States, for the
26 sole purpose of deficit reduction. No portion of such

1 amount may be treated as a credit toward future contribu-
2 tions required under section 254(d) of the Communica-
3 tions Act of 1934.

4 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) COMMERCIAL MOBILE DATA SERVICE.—The
6 term “commercial mobile data service” has the
7 meaning given such term in section 6001 of the Mid-
8 dle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012
9 (47 U.S.C. 1401).

10 (2) COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.—The term
11 “commercial mobile service” has the meaning given
12 such term in section 332 of the Communications Act
13 of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332).

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