

Calendar No. 305

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1621

[Report No. 115–206]

To require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a methodology for the collection by the Commission of information about commercial mobile service and commercial mobile data service, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 24, 2017

Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. PETERS, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. HELLER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Reported by Mr. THUNE, without amendment

A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to establish a methodology for the collection by the Commission of information about commercial mobile service and commercial mobile data service, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Rural Wireless Access
3 Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. METHODOLOGY FOR COLLECTION OF MOBILE**
5 **SERVICE COVERAGE DATA.**

6 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

7 (1) the term “commercial mobile data service”
8 has the meaning given the term in section 6001 of
9 the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act
10 of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1401);

11 (2) the term “commercial mobile service” has
12 the meaning given the term in section 332(d) of the
13 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d));

14 (3) the term “Commission” means the Federal
15 Communications Commission;

16 (4) the term “coverage data” means, if com-
17 mercial mobile service or commercial mobile data
18 service is available, information about the service,
19 which may include available speed tiers and perform-
20 ance characteristics; and

21 (5) the term “Universal Service program”
22 means the universal service support mechanisms es-
23 tablished under section 254 of the Communications
24 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) and the regulations
25 issued under that section.

1 (b) METHODOLOGY ESTABLISHED.—Not later than
2 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
3 Commission shall promulgate regulations to establish a
4 methodology that shall apply to the collection of coverage
5 data by the Commission for the purposes of—

6 (1) the Universal Service program; or

7 (2) any other similar program.

8 (c) REQUIREMENTS.—The methodology established
9 under subsection (b) shall—

10 (1) contain standard definitions for different
11 speed tiers, such as the 2G, 3G, 4G, and 4G LTE
12 tiers;

13 (2) ensure that coverage data is collected in a
14 consistent and robust way;

15 (3) improve the validity and reliability of cov-
16 erage data; and

17 (4) increase the efficiency of coverage data col-
18 lection.

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