



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

**Raised Bill No. 990**

LCO No. 4237



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:  
(ET)

***AN ACT PREVENTING NEW DATA CAPS DURING COVID-19.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Broadband Internet access service" means a mass-market retail  
3 service by wire or radio that provides the capability to transmit data to  
4 and receive data from all or substantially all Internet endpoints,  
5 including any capabilities that are incidental to and enable the operation  
6 of the communications service, but excluding dial-up Internet access  
7 service;
- 8 (2) "Broadband Internet access service provider" means any person or  
9 entity that provides broadband Internet access service through facilities  
10 occupying public highways or streets authorized by the Public Utilities  
11 Regulatory Authority, including through a certificate of public  
12 convenience and necessity, a certificate of video franchise authority, a  
13 certificate of cable franchise authority, or as a certified  
14 telecommunications provider;
- 15 (3) "COVID-19" means the respiratory disease designated by the

16 World Health Organization on February 11, 2020, as coronavirus 2019,  
17 and any related mutation thereof recognized by said organization as a  
18 communicable respiratory disease; and

19 (4) "Data cap" means a limit on, or a fee-based structure with the  
20 purpose of limiting, the broadband Internet download and upload  
21 speeds a consumer may utilize during a period of time specified by a  
22 broadband Internet access service provider.

23 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, no  
24 broadband Internet access service provider shall impose new data caps  
25 on such provider's customers for the duration of the public health  
26 emergency declared by the Governor related to COVID-19.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To prevent the imposition of new data caps during COVID-19.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*