

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8556

To amend section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure that certain telecommunications assistance available to assist school buses is preserved consistent with the Declaratory Ruling in the matter of Modernizing the E-Rate Program for Schools and Libraries adopted by the Federal Communications Commission on October 19, 2023 (FCC 23–84; WC Docket No. 13–184), and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2024

Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. ROBERT GARCIA of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. STANSBURY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure that certain telecommunications assistance available to assist school buses is preserved consistent with the Declaratory Ruling in the matter of Modernizing the E-Rate Program for Schools and Libraries adopted by the Federal Communications Commission on October 19, 2023 (FCC 23–84; WC Docket No. 13–184), 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 “Clarifying E–Rate Act  
3 of 2024”.

4 **SEC. 2. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES FOR CERTAIN**  
5 **PROVIDERS.**

6 (a) **SCHOOL BUSES AND OTHER LOCATIONS WHERE**  
7 **LEARNING OCCURS.**—Section 254 of the Communications  
8 Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) is amended—

9 (1) in subsection (b)(6), by striking “and class-  
10 rooms” and inserting “(including classrooms associ-  
11 ated with such schools, buses associated with such  
12 schools (if owned, leased, or contracted by a school  
13 and used primarily to transport students to and  
14 from such school or activities related to such school),  
15 and other locations where learning occurs as deter-  
16 mined appropriate by the Commission)”;

17 (2) in subsection (h)(1)(B), by inserting “(in-  
18 cluding, with respect to schools, to classrooms asso-  
19 ciated with such schools, buses associated with such  
20 schools (if owned, leased, or contracted by a school  
21 and used primarily to transport students to and  
22 from such school or activities related to such school),  
23 and other locations where learning occurs as deter-  
24 mined appropriate by the Commission)” after “edu-  
25 cational purposes”; and

1           (3) in subsection (h)(2)(A), by striking “school  
2           classrooms” and inserting “schools (including class-  
3           rooms associated with such schools, buses associated  
4           with such schools (if owned, leased, or contracted by  
5           a school and used primarily to transport students to  
6           and from such school or activities related to such  
7           school), and other locations where learning occurs as  
8           determined appropriate by the Commission)”.

9           (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by sub-  
10          section (a) shall apply to amounts made available for fund-  
11          ing year 2025 and each funding year thereafter.

12          (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendments  
13          made by subsection (a) may not be construed to affect  
14          the authority of the Federal Communications Commission  
15          with respect to the Declaratory Ruling in the matter of  
16          Modernizing the E-Rate Program for Schools and Librar-  
17          ies adopted by the Commission on October 19, 2023 (FCC  
18          23–84; WC Docket No. 13–184).

19          (d) DETERMINATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after  
20          the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Commu-  
21          nications Commission shall promulgate a notice of pro-  
22          posed rulemaking to—

23                 (1) specify, if any, additional locations where  
24                 learning occurs that the Commission determines ap-  
25                 propriate for purposes of subsections (b)(6),

1 (h)(1)(B), and (h)(2)(A) of section 254 of the Com-  
2 munications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254), as  
3 amended by this Act; and

4 (2) establish an annual assessment process for  
5 determining if further modifications are necessary  
6 with respect to such additional locations.

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