

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 3236

To require the Federal Communications Commission to reform the contribution system of the Universal Service Fund, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 18, 2021

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. MORAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To require the Federal Communications Commission to reform the contribution system of the Universal Service Fund, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Reforming Broadband  
5 Connectivity Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY AND REPORT.**

7 Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment  
8 of this Act, the Federal Communications Commission (re-  
9 ferred to in this Act as the “Commission”) shall—

1           (1) conduct a study assessing the need to ex-  
2           pand the contribution base of the Universal Service  
3           Fund to ensure that the contribution requirement  
4           under section 254(d) of the Communications Act of  
5           1934 (47 U.S.C. 254(d)) is imposed fairly and equi-  
6           tably; and

7           (2) submit to Congress a report on the results  
8           of the study conducted under paragraph (1).

9   **SEC. 3. UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND CONTRIBUTION SYSTEM**  
10                                   **REFORM.**

11           (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the  
12           date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall com-  
13           plete a rulemaking to reform the contribution system of  
14           the Universal Service Fund, including by expanding the  
15           contribution base of the Universal Service Fund.

16           (b) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In conducting the rule-  
17           making required under subsection (a), the Commission  
18           shall consider—

19                   (1) the relative equities and burdens of the pro-  
20                   posed changes to the contribution system of the Uni-  
21                   versal Service Fund with respect to consumers and  
22                   businesses;

23                   (2) the impact of the proposed changes to the  
24                   contribution system of the Universal Service Fund  
25                   on seniors; and

- 1 (3) the findings and recommendations in the re-
- 2 port submitted under section 2(2).

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