

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 421

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to protect low-income Lifeline subscribers by mandating a continuing role for States in designating eligible telecommunications carriers for participation in the Universal Service program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 16, 2017

Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mr. UDALL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to protect low-income Lifeline subscribers by mandating a continuing role for States in designating eligible telecommunications carriers for participation in the Universal Service program, 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 “Preserving State Com-
5 mission Oversight Act of 2017” or the “PSC Oversight
6 Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIFELINE BROADBAND PROVIDERS.**

2 (a) NO FORCE OR EFFECT.—On and after the date
3 of enactment of this Act, paragraph (j) of section 54.201
4 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, shall have no
5 force or effect.

6 (b) REMOVAL FROM RULES.—Not later than 1 year
7 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Com-
8 munications Commission shall amend section 54.201 of
9 title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, by striking para-
10 graph (j).

11 **SEC. 3. STATE DUTY TO DESIGNATE ELIGIBLE TELE-**
12 **COMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS.**

13 Section 214(e) of the Communications Act of 1934
14 (47 U.S.C. 214(e)) is amended by adding at the end the
15 following:

16 “(7) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
17 this Act or in the Telecommunications Act of 1996
18 (Public Law 104–104; 110 Stat. 56) may be con-
19 strued as modifying or effectively limiting the juris-
20 diction of any State commission to designate an eli-
21 gible telecommunications carrier under this sub-
22 section.”.

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