

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2476

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 in order to prohibit any regulatory impediments to completely and accurately fulfilling the sufficiency of support mandates of the national statutory policy of universal service, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 27, 2000

Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. BAUCUS) 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 amend the Communications Act of 1934 in order to prohibit any regulatory impediments to completely and accurately fulfilling the sufficiency of support mandates of the national statutory policy of universal 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Universal Service Sup-  
5 port Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 254 of the Communica-  
3 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254) is amended by adding  
4 at the end thereof the following:

5 “(l) REMOVAL OF THE INTERIM CAP ON THE SIZE  
6 OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND.—After the date of  
7 enactment of the Universal Service Support Act, the Com-  
8 mission may not enforce section 36.601(c) of its regula-  
9 tions (47 C.F.R. 36.601(c)), nor promulgate a rule or reg-  
10 ulation that is substantially the same as or similar in ef-  
11 fect to that section.

12 “(m) REMOVAL OF UNIVERSAL SERVICE CAPS ON  
13 INDIVIDUAL CARRIERS.—After the date of enactment of  
14 the Universal Service Support Act, the Commission may  
15 not—

16 “(1) enforce individual caps imposed on carriers  
17 by Commission orders entered in connection with re-  
18 quests, received before the date of enactment of that  
19 Act, for study area waivers; or

20 “(2) impose any new cap that would limit the  
21 per-loop support calculated under section 36.631 of  
22 its regulations (47 C.F.R. 36.631).

23 “(n) PER-LOOP SUPPORT CALCULATION.— In calcu-  
24 lating per-loop support, the Commission shall comply with  
25 section 36.631 of its regulations (47 C.F.R. 36.631) as

1 that section was in effect on the date of the enactment  
2 of the Universal Service Support Act.”.

3 (b) HIGH COST LOOP SUPPORT CALCULATION.—

4 The Federal Communications Commission shall—

5 (1) calculate that portion of the high cost sup-  
6 port mechanism attributable to loops that have costs  
7 that are in excess of 115 percent of the nationwide  
8 average under section 36.631 of the Commission’s  
9 regulations (47 C.F.R. 36.631); and

10 (2) calculate the nationwide average for such  
11 purposes under sections 36.621 and 36.622 of those  
12 regulations (47 C.F.R. 36.621 and 36.622) as they  
13 were in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

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