

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4884

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to place an annual cap on support provided through the Lifeline program of the Federal Communications Commission and to provide for certain other requirements relating to such program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 23, 2016

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to place an annual cap on support provided through the Lifeline program of the Federal Communications Commission and to provide for certain other requirements relating to such program.

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 “Controlling the Un-
5 checked and Reckless Ballooning of Lifeline Act of 2016”
6 or the “CURB Lifeline Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE LIFE-**
2 **LINE PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part II of title II of the Commu-
4 nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 251 et seq.) is amended
5 by inserting after section 254 the following:

6 **“SEC. 254A. CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO THE**
7 **LIFELINE PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) ANNUAL CAP ON SUPPORT.—The total amount
9 of support that may be provided through the Lifeline pro-
10 gram of the Commission in any calendar year may not
11 exceed \$1,500,000,000.

12 “(b) PROHIBITION ON SUBSIDY OF DEVICES.—Sup-
13 port provided through the Lifeline program of the Com-
14 mission may not be applied to any amount charged to a
15 consumer for the sale, lease, or other provision of a mobile
16 telephone or similar device.

17 “(c) PROHIBITION ON VOICE-ONLY MOBILE SERV-
18 ICE.—Support provided through the Lifeline program of
19 the Commission may not be applied to mobile service if
20 the service offering is limited to voice communications
21 service.”.

22 (b) EFFECTIVE DATES.—Section 254A of the Com-
23 munications Act of 1934, as added by subsection (a), shall
24 apply as follows:

25 (1) Subsection (a) of such section shall apply
26 beginning with calendar year 2017.

1 (2) Subsection (b) of such section shall apply
2 beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

3 (3) Subsection (c) of such section shall apply
4 beginning on the date that is 2 years after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act.

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