

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5525

To prohibit universal service support of commercial mobile service and commercial mobile data service through the Lifeline program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 16, 2016

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

A BILL

To prohibit universal service support of commercial mobile service and commercial mobile data service through the Lifeline 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 “End Taxpayer Funded
5 Cell Phones Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON LIFELINE SUPPORT FOR MOBILE**
7 **SERVICE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on January 1, 2017,
9 a provider of commercial mobile service or commercial mo-
10 bile data service may not receive universal service support

1 under sections 214(e) and 254 of the Communications Act
2 of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 214(e); 254) for the provision of such
3 service through the Lifeline program of the Federal Com-
4 munications Commission.

5 (b) CONTRIBUTIONS.—For calendar year 2017, the
6 amount that telecommunications carriers that provide
7 interstate telecommunications services and other providers
8 of interstate telecommunications are required to con-
9 tribute under section 254(d) of the Communications Act
10 of 1934 to Federal universal service support mechanisms
11 shall be determined—

12 (1) without regard to subsection (a); and

13 (2) as if the same amount of support for the
14 provision of commercial mobile service and commer-
15 cial mobile data service through the Lifeline pro-
16 gram that is provided in calendar year 2016 is pro-
17 vided in calendar year 2017.

18 (c) EXCESS COLLECTIONS.—The amount collected
19 pursuant to subsection (b)(2) shall be deposited in the
20 general fund of the Treasury of the United States, for the
21 sole purpose of deficit reduction. No portion of such
22 amount may be treated as a credit toward future contribu-
23 tions required under section 254(d) of the Communica-
24 tions Act of 1934.

25 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) COMMERCIAL MOBILE DATA SERVICE.—The
2 term “commercial mobile data service” has the
3 meaning given such term in section 6001 of the Mid-
4 dle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012
5 (47 U.S.C. 1401).

6 (2) COMMERCIAL MOBILE SERVICE.—The term
7 “commercial mobile service” has the meaning given
8 such term in section 332 of the Communications Act
9 of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332).

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