

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7963

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations to improve the Lifeline program of the Commission, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 2026

Mr. OBERNOLTE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations to improve the Lifeline program of the Commission, 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 “No Lifeline for the
5 Dead Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. LIFELINE PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Commu-
9 nications Commission shall promulgate regulations with

1 respect to the Lifeline program to provide for the fol-
2 lowing:

3 (1) The eligibility of a consumer for assistance
4 under such program shall be determined using the
5 National Lifeline Eligibility Verifier and the Na-
6 tional Lifeline Accountability Database, without any
7 option for opting out of such Verifier or such Data-
8 base on the basis of a State or other system related
9 to eligibility determinations.

10 (2) Not later than 180 days after the date of
11 the enactment of this Act, any consumer whose eligi-
12 bility for assistance under such program was deter-
13 mined without use of the National Lifeline Eligibility
14 Verifier and the National Lifeline Accountability
15 Database—

16 (A) shall have the eligibility of such con-
17 sumer for assistance under such program reex-
18 amined and determined using such Verifier and
19 such Database; and

20 (B) shall be no longer eligible for assist-
21 ance under such program if determined ineli-
22 gible pursuant to a reexamination under sub-
23 paragraph (A).

1 (3) Only a consumer who is a citizen of the
2 United States or a qualified alien shall be eligible for
3 assistance under such program.

4 (4) Only a consumer who provides, as part of
5 the application process for assistance under such
6 program, the Social Security number (or a Tribal
7 identifier) of such consumer shall be eligible for as-
8 sistance under such program.

9 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) LIFELINE PROGRAM.—The term “Lifeline
11 program” means the Lifeline program of the Federal
12 Communications Commission, set forth in subpart E
13 of part 54 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations
14 (or any successor regulation).

15 (2) NATIONAL LIFELINE ACCOUNTABILITY
16 DATABASE.—The term “National Lifeline Account-
17 ability Database” has the meaning given such term
18 in section 54.400 of subpart E of part 54 of title 47,
19 Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regu-
20 lation).

21 (3) NATIONAL LIFELINE ELIGIBILITY
22 VERIFIER.—The term “National Lifeline Eligibility
23 Verifier” has the meaning given such term in section
24 54.400 of subpart E of part 54 of title 47, Code of
25 Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

1 (4) QUALIFIED ALIEN.—The term “qualified
2 alien” has the meaning given such term in section
3 431 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Oppor-
4 tunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1641).

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