

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5550

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to direct the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations requiring providers of broadband service to state the aggregate price for such service and prohibiting providers of broadband service from charging certain fees, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025

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

A BILL

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to direct the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations requiring providers of broadband service to state the aggregate price for such service and prohibiting providers of broadband service from charging certain fees, 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 “Lower Internet Costs
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF AGGREGATE PRICE FOR**
2 **BROADBAND SERVICE; CERTAIN FEES PRO-**
3 **HIBITED.**

4 Title VII of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the
6 following:

7 **“SEC. 723. STATEMENT OF AGGREGATE PRICE FOR**
8 **BROADBAND SERVICE; CERTAIN FEES PRO-**
9 **HIBITED.**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
11 date of the enactment of this section, the Commission
12 shall promulgate regulations that—

13 “(1) require a provider of broadband service—

14 “(A) to state the aggregate price for such
15 service as a clear, easy-to-understand, and accu-
16 rate single line item on the bill of a subscriber;
17 and

18 “(B) if such provider communicates a price
19 for such service in any promotional materials,
20 to state the aggregate price for such service in
21 a clear, easy-to-understand, and accurate man-
22 ner in such materials; and

23 “(2) prohibit a provider of broadband service
24 from charging a subscriber a covered fee.

25 “(b) REQUIREMENTS REGARDING STATEMENT OF
26 AGGREGATE PRICE.—

1 “(1) ON BILL OF SUBSCRIBER.—With respect
2 to the statement on the bill of a subscriber described
3 in subsection (a)(1)(A) (including a bill for a legacy
4 or grandfathered broadband service plan that is no
5 longer generally available to new customers), the
6 regulations promulgated under subsection (a)
7 shall—

8 “(A) if the aggregate price stated is intro-
9 ductory or otherwise limited to a period of time,
10 require the provider of broadband service to
11 state on the bills provided to such subscriber
12 approximately 60 days and 30 days before the
13 end of such period—

14 “(i) either—

15 “(I) the length of such period; or

16 “(II) the date on which such pe-
17 riod will end and the price charged
18 will change; and

19 “(ii) the price that will be charged
20 after the end of such period; and

21 “(B) permit the provider of broadband
22 service to complement the aggregate price stat-
23 ed with an itemized explanation of the elements
24 that compose such aggregate price.

1 “(2) IN PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS.—With re-
2 spect to the statement in any promotional materials
3 described in subsection (a)(1)(B), the regulations
4 promulgated under subsection (a) shall—

5 “(A) if the aggregate price stated is intro-
6 ductory or otherwise limited to a period of time,
7 require the provider of broadband service to
8 state in such materials—

9 “(i) the price that will be charged
10 after the end of such period (calculated on
11 the date on which such materials are made
12 available to consumers); and

13 “(ii) the length of such period and the
14 length of time for which the price de-
15 scribed in clause (i) will be charged;

16 “(B) if part of the aggregate price stated
17 fluctuates based on service location, require the
18 provider of broadband service to state where
19 and how a consumer may obtain the aggregate
20 price specific to such consumer (such as elec-
21 tronically or by contacting a customer service or
22 sales representative);

23 “(C) permit the provider of broadband
24 service to complement the aggregate price stat-

1 ed with an itemized explanation of the elements
2 that compose such aggregate price; and

3 “(D) specify that the requirements in such
4 regulations with respect to such statement do
5 not apply with respect to legacy or grand-
6 fathered broadband service plans that are no
7 longer generally available to new customers.

8 “(3) EXCLUSIONS FROM AGGREGATE PRICE.—

9 The regulations promulgated under subsection (a)
10 shall specify other charges related to the provision of
11 broadband service (such as taxes, administrative
12 fees, and equipment fees) that are not charged for
13 the broadband service itself and are not required to
14 be included in the aggregate price stated under such
15 regulations.

16 “(4) APPLICATION TO BUNDLED SERVICES.—

17 The regulations promulgated under subsection (a)
18 shall provide that, if a provider of broadband service
19 bills for or promotes broadband service as part of a
20 bundle with other services—

21 “(A) the statements described in sub-
22 section (a)(1) are required with respect to any
23 charges for such bundle that are specific to
24 broadband service; and

1 “(B) the prohibition on charging a covered
2 fee under subsection (a)(2) applies with respect
3 to all services that are part of such bundle.

4 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 “(1) BROADBAND SERVICE.—The term
6 ‘broadband service’ has the meaning given the term
7 ‘broadband internet access service’ in section 8.1(b)
8 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or any suc-
9 cessor regulation).

10 “(2) COVERED FEE.—The term ‘covered fee’
11 means, with respect to a fee charged by a provider
12 of broadband service, the following:

13 “(A) A fee to cover the cost of compliance
14 with State regulations and programs (commonly
15 known as a ‘State cost recovery charge’).

16 “(B) A fee to cover the cost of maintain-
17 ing, building, or operating the network of such
18 provider (commonly known as a ‘network access
19 and maintenance fee’, ‘internet cost recovery
20 fee’, ‘broadband cost recovery fee’, or ‘network
21 enhancement fee’).

22 “(C) A fee imposed by a local government
23 on such provider to compensate such local gov-
24 ernment for use of a public right-of-way (com-
25 monly known as a ‘local access fee’).

1 “(D) A fee for the cost of technical sup-
2 port or repair of equipment (commonly known
3 as a ‘tech assure fee’).

4 “(E) Any other fee determined by the
5 Commission to be charged for a purpose similar
6 to a purpose described in any of subparagraphs
7 (A) through (D).”.

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