

S 2281

VOIP Regulatory Freedom Act of 2004

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Apr 5, 2004

Current Status: By Senator McCain from Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation filed written report. Repo

Latest Action: By Senator McCain from Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation filed written report. Report No. 108-425. (Dec 7, 2004)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/2281>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Sununu, John E. [R-NH]

Party: Republican • **State:** NH • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Nov 19, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

VOIP Regulatory Freedom Act of 2004 - Reserves solely to the Federal Government the authority to regulate the offering or provision of a voice-over-Internet-protocol (VOIP) application (an application that uses the Internet or any successor protocol to offer two-way or multidirectional voice communications). Prohibits State regulation of such authority.

States that nothing in this Act: (1) limits State jurisdiction over 911 and enhanced-911 telephone services; (2) exempts providers of a VOIP application from State universal service preservation and interprovider compensation requirements; or (3) affects the authority of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) or any State to regulate the facilities used to transmit a voice communication of a VOIP application.

Requires the FCC to: (1) conclude a proceeding establishing a transition period in which providers of a VOIP application are required to provide 911 and enhanced-911 services comparable to those provided by other telecommunications carriers; and (2) report to specified congressional committees on the progress of enhanced-911 implementation for connected VOIP applications.

Preserves the obligation of a VOIP application provider to furnish authorized law enforcement authorities all information, facilities, and technical assistance necessary to accomplish an interception (of a phone call) or the installation of a pen register or trap and trace device. Requires a report from the: (1) Comptroller General to specified congressional committees addressing technical problems encountered by law enforcement authorities when intercepting and analyzing communications over the Internet or using the Internet protocol; and (2) FCC to such committees assessing the first ten years of implementation of the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act.

Terminates this Act three years after its enactment.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 7, 2004:** By Senator McCain from Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation filed written report. Report No. 108-425.
- **Dec 7, 2004:** By Senator McCain from Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation filed written report. Report No. 108-425.
- **Nov 19, 2004:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Nov 19, 2004:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator McCain with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Without written report.
- **Nov 19, 2004:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 812.
- **Jul 22, 2004:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jun 16, 2004:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Hearings held.
- **Apr 5, 2004:** Introduced in Senate
- **Apr 5, 2004:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.