

## S 718

Troops Phone Home Free Act of 2003

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Armed Forces and National Security

**Introduced:** Mar 26, 2003

**Current Status:** Executive Comment Requested from DOD.

**Latest Action:** Executive Comment Requested from DOD. (Apr 8, 2003)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/718>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]

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

### Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Allen, George [R-VA]	R · VA		Mar 26, 2003
Sen. Chambliss, Saxby [R-GA]	R · GA		Mar 26, 2003
Sen. Graham, Lindsey [R-SC]	R · SC		Mar 26, 2003
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 1, 2003
Sen. Gregg, Judd [R-NH]	R · NH		Apr 1, 2003
Sen. Miller, Zell [D-GA]	D · GA		Apr 1, 2003

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 8, 2003

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Summary (as of Apr 1, 2003)

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Troops Phone Home Free Act of 2003 - Directs the Secretary of Defense to provide prepaid phone cards, or the equivalent telephone service benefit, to military personnel stationed outside the United States who are directly supporting military operations in Iraq or Afghanistan to enable such personnel to call family and friends in the United States at no cost. Limits such benefit to \$40 per month per person. Terminates the program 60 days after the end of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Directs the Secretary to: (1) work with telecommunications providers to facilitate the deployment of additional telephones for such use as quickly as practicable; and (2) carry out this Act in a manner that allows for competition in the provision of benefits.

Prohibits the Secretary from taking any action under this Act that would compromise the military objectives or mission of the Department of Defense.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Apr 8, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Total Force.
- **Apr 8, 2003:** Executive Comment Requested from DOD.
- **Apr 2, 2003:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Apr 2, 2003:** Received in the House.
- **Apr 2, 2003:** Referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.
- **Apr 1, 2003:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S4615-4621)
- **Apr 1, 2003:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.(text: CR S4620-4621)
- **Apr 1, 2003:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote. (text: CR S4620-4621)
- **Mar 27, 2003:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 56.
- **Mar 26, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 26, 2003:** Introduced in the Senate. Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time. (text of measure as introduced: CR S4441)

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