

Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com

Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/109/s/1282

S 1282

A bill to amend the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 to strike the privatization criteria for INTELSAT separated entities, remove certain restrictions on separated and successor entities to INTELSAT, and for other purposes.

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jun 21, 2005

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 109-34.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 109-34. (Jul 12, 2005)

Law: 109-34 (Enacted Jul 12, 2005)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/1282

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Burns, Conrad R. [R-MT]

Party: Republican • State: MT • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Discharged From	Jun 29, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Amends title VI (Open-market Reorganization for the Betterment of International Telecommunications Act or ORBIT Act) of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962, concerning INTELSAT (a global satellite provider of voice, data, and Internet services) and Inmarsat (a global mobile satellite communications provider), to prohibit any successor entity or separated entity from having officers or managers who are officers or managers of any signatories. (Current law prohibits any successor entity or separated entity from having officers or managers who are officers or managers of any signatories or former signatories or who have any direct financial interest in or financial relationship to any signatories or former signatories, except that such interest may be managed through a blind trust or similar mechanism.) Strikes provsions that prohibited a separated entity from having officers or directors, who are either officers or managers of any intergovernmental organization or who have any direct financial interest in or financial relationship to any international organization, except that such interest may be managed through a blind trust or similar mechanism.

Requires the United States to preserve the space segment capacity of the GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System).

Directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to review competitive market conditions of domestic and international satellite communications services and include in an annual report an analysis of those conditions.

Actions Timeline

- Jul 12, 2005: Signed by President.
- Jul 12, 2005: Signed by President.
- Jul 12, 2005: Became Public Law No: 109-34.
- Jul 12, 2005: Became Public Law No: 109-34.
- Jun 30, 2005: Presented to President.
- Jun 30, 2005: Presented to President.
- Jun 29, 2005: Mr. Barton (TX) asked unanimous consent to discharge from committee and consider.
- Jun 29, 2005: Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged.(consideration: CR H5372)
- Jun 29, 2005: Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged. (consideration: CR H5372)
- Jun 29, 2005: Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed without objection.(text: CR H5372)
- Jun 29, 2005: On passage Passed without objection. (text: CR H5372)
- Jun 29, 2005: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- Jun 29, 2005: Cleared for White House.
- Jun 21, 2005: Introduced in Senate
- Jun 21, 2005: Passed/agreed to in Senate: Introduced in the Senate, read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S6977-6978; text as passed Senate: CR S6977-6978)
- Jun 21, 2005: Introduced in the Senate, read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S6977-6978; text as passed Senate: CR S6977-6978)
- Jun 21, 2005: Received in the House.
- Jun 21, 2005: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- Jun 21, 2005: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.