

S 1583

Universal Service for the 21st Century Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jul 29, 2005

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9506-9507) (Jul 29, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/1583>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]

Party: Republican • State: OR • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]	D · ND		Jul 29, 2005
Sen. Pryor, Mark L. [D-AR]	D · AR		Jul 29, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 29, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Universal Service for the 21st Century Act - Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require all telecommunications carriers (currently, only those providing interstate telecommunications services) to contribute to the universal service fund (a fund whose goal is to provide advanced telecommunications services to all areas of the country). Requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish a permanent mechanism to support universal service that will preserve and enhance its long-term financial stability. Gives the FCC exclusive jurisdiction to establish rates for inter-carrier compensation payments, including compensation for the origination and termination of intrastate telecommunications traffic.

Establishes within the universal service fund the Broadband for Unserved Areas Account, to provide financial assistance for the deployment of broadband (high-speed) communications services to unserved areas throughout the United States. Allows assistance to be provided only to: (1) facilities-based providers of broadband communications service; and (2) one facility-based provider in any unserved area.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Jul 29, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S9505-9506)
- **Jul 29, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9506-9507)