Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/109/s/976

S 976

A bill striking the Specific Privatization Criteria in ORBIT for Intelsat Separated Entities (New Skies) and Inmarsat and Other Technical Corrections.

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Apr 28, 2005

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet. (May 13, 2005)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/976

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	Referred to	May 13, 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 by striking: (1) all specific criteria for Intelsat (a global satellite provider of voice, data, and Internet services) separated entities privatization (New Skies, formed through Intelsat) provisions; and (2) the reaffiliation prohibition and the interlocking directorates or employees privatization criteria provisions for Inmarsat (a global mobile satellite communications provider), while maintaining GMDSS (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System) provisions.

Directs the Federal Communications Commission 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

- May 13, 2005: Referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.
- May 2, 2005: Received in the House.
- May 2, 2005: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- May 2, 2005: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.
- Apr 29, 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 4/28/2005 S4607; text as passed Senate: CR 4/28/2005 S4607)
- Apr 29, 2005: Introduced in the Senate, read twice, considered, read the third time, and passed without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR 4/28/2005 S4607; text as passed Senate: CR 4/28/2005 S4607)
- Apr 28, 2005: Introduced in Senate