

S 101

USA Act

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jan 4, 2007

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Jan 4, 2007)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/101

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Stevens, Ted [R-AK]

Party: Republican • State: AK • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]	R · TX		Jan 4, 2007
Sen. Lott, Trent [R-MS]	R · MS		Jan 4, 2007
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Jan 8, 2007
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Jan 22, 2007
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Jan 31, 2007
Sen. Chambliss, Saxby [R-GA]	R · GA		Apr 30, 2007

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 4, 2007

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Universal Service for Americans Act or USA Act - Amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require each communications service provider to contribute to support universal service (the provision of communications service in rural, insular, and high-cost areas), subject to exemptions.

Modifies requirements regarding interconnection and rural telephone companies.

Imposes on facilities-based IP-enabled voice service providers the same rights, duties, and obligations as a requesting telecommunications carrier if the provider elects to assert those rights. Prohibits a carrier from refusing to transport or terminate IP-enabled voice traffic solely because it is IP-enabled and prohibits a provider originating, transmitting, or terminating IP-enabled voice traffic from being exempted from paying compensation for interstate traffic solely because the traffic is IP-enabled. Regulates IP-enabled voice service regarding: (1) accessibility for the disabled community; and (2) alarm or security systems or personal security or medical monitoring systems.

Applies universal service provisions to any services under FCC jurisdiction that can effectively substitute for interexchange telecommunications services, including any such substitute classified as an information service that uses telecommunications.

Establishes the Broadband for Unserved Areas Program to provide financial assistance for the deployment of broadband equipment and infrastructure to unserved areas throughout the United States.

Declares that universal service support mechanisms and rules should be competitively neutral.

Requires telecommunications and IP-enabled voice service providers to ensure, as technically possible, that all traffic contains or preserves identification information.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 4, 2007:** Introduced in Senate
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