

S 2998

Prepaid Calling Card Consumer Protection Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: May 8, 2008

Current Status: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 110-1218

Latest Action: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 110-1218. (Sep 10, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/2998>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]

Party: Democratic • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	D · MA		May 8, 2008
Sen. Martinez, Mel [R-FL]	R · FL		May 8, 2008
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		May 8, 2008
Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]	R · TX		Sep 10, 2008
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 11, 2008
Sen. Stevens, Ted [R-AK]	R · AK		Sep 11, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	Sep 10, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 3402	Related bill	Oct 2, 2008: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Prepaid Calling Card Consumer Protection Act of 2008 - Requires the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to require every prepaid telephone calling service provider and prepaid telephone calling card distributor to disclose certain information, including: (1) the number of calling units or minutes of domestic interstate calls provided or the dollar value and the domestic interstate rate per minute; (2) the calling unit or per minute rates for all served international preferred destinations; (3) the applicable per minute rates for all served international destinations; (4) all terms and conditions, including regarding fees, policies on refunds, recharges, decrements, and expiration, and time imitations; and (5) a toll-free customer service number and hours.

Makes it unlawful to: (1) deduct anything but the per minute rate and disclosed fees; (2) provide fewer minutes or charge a higher per minute rate than promoted or advertised; (3) provide fewer minutes than the number of minutes announced, promoted, or advertised through any voice prompt; (4) have (unless clearly disclosed) an expiration date less than one year after first use (or after additional minutes are purchased); and (5) charge a fee for an unconnected call. Prohibits evading liability by using disclaimers or limitations.

Treats violations as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice under specified provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act.

Allows state civil enforcement and state laws offering equal or greater protection to consumers.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 10, 2008:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 110-1218.
- **May 8, 2008:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 8, 2008:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S3976-3977)
- **May 8, 2008:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S3977-3979)