

HR 1591

WiFi Capable Mobile Devices Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Mar 16, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. (Mar 17, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1591>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 17, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Mar 16, 2017)

WiFi Capable Mobile Devices Act of 2017

This bill directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to issue rules to ensure that providers of mobile broadband Internet access service supported through the Lifeline Assistance Program offer mobile devices that are capable of: (1) receiving WiFi or other wireless broadband signals using unlicensed spectrum, and (2) sharing a mobile service connection (commonly referred to as "tethering") with other compatible hardware or devices. (The Lifeline program provides discounts on telephone service to qualifying low-income consumers.)

The FCC must also provide incentives to such providers to work with schools and libraries to conduct outreach to those eligible for Lifeline assistance.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 17, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Mar 16, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 16, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.