

S 856

FAIR Contributions Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Mar 16, 2023

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. (Mar 16, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/856>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wicker, Roger F. [R-MS]

Party: Republican • **State:** MS • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 16, 2023
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 16, 2023
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Mar 16, 2023
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Apr 18, 2023
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Apr 18, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 16, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Funding Affordable Internet with Reliable Contributions Act or the FAIR Contributions Act

This bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to study and report on the feasibility of funding the Universal Service Fund through contributions from edge providers (i.e., providers of online content or services, such as search engines).

The fund provides support for broadband and other telecommunications services to high-cost areas, schools and libraries, rural health care facilities, and the Lifeline program (an FCC program that provides a discount on phone and internet services for low-income consumers).

The report must consider (1) the type and size of firms and services on which contributions could be assessed, (2) equity issues related to current versus alternative systems for contributing to the fund, (3) the effect of any change to the contribution system on the telecommunications bills of consumers, and (4) the sustainability of the fund and how to ensure that fund disbursements are consistent and predictable over time.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 16, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 16, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.