

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7461

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit providers of broadband internet access service from charging consumers above certain amounts for certain equipment.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 26, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit providers of broadband internet access service from charging consumers above certain amounts for certain equipment.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Broadband Equipment
5 Rental Reform Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON CHARGING CONSUMERS ABOVE**
2 **CERTAIN AMOUNTS FOR CERTAIN RENTED**
3 **EQUIPMENT.**

4 Section 642 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47
5 U.S.C. 562) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-
7 section (e); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(d) PROHIBITION ON CHARGING CONSUMERS
11 ABOVE CERTAIN AMOUNTS FOR CERTAIN EQUIPMENT.—

12 A provider of fixed broadband internet access service that
13 enters into a contract with a consumer after the date of
14 the enactment of this paragraph for the provision of such
15 service may not charge the consumer for renting, leasing,
16 or otherwise providing to the consumer equipment (such
17 as a router or modem) employed on the premises of the
18 consumer for the provision of such service, if the consumer
19 has paid to the provider through monthly rental fees the
20 price offered to the consumer by the provider (at the time
21 the contract was entered into) for purchasing the equip-
22 ment from the provider.”.

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