

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4596

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2016

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation

AN ACT

To ensure that small business providers of broadband Internet access service can devote resources to broadband deployment rather than compliance with cumbersome regulatory requirements.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Small Business
3 Broadband Deployment Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. EXCEPTION TO ENHANCEMENT TO TRANSPARENCY**
5 **REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The enhancements to the trans-
7 parency rule of the Federal Communications Commission
8 under section 8.3 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations,
9 as described in paragraphs 162 through 184 of the Report
10 and Order on Remand, Declaratory Ruling, and Order of
11 the Federal Communications Commission with regard to
12 protecting and promoting the open Internet (adopted Feb-
13 ruary 26, 2015) (FCC 15–24), shall not apply to any
14 small business.

15 (b) **SUNSET.**—Subsection (a) shall not have any force
16 or effect after the date that is 5 years after the date of
17 the enactment of this Act.

18 (c) **REPORT BY FCC.**—Not later than 180 days after
19 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Commu-
20 nications Commission shall submit to the Committee on
21 Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives
22 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
23 tation of the Senate a report that contains the rec-
24 ommendations of the Commission (and data supporting
25 such recommendations) regarding—

1 (1) whether the exception provided by sub-
2 section (a) should be made permanent; and

3 (2) whether the definition of the term “small
4 business” for purposes of such exception should be
5 modified from the definition in subsection (d)(2).

6 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) BROADBAND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE.—
8 The term “broadband Internet access service” has
9 the meaning given such term in section 8.2 of title
10 47, Code of Federal Regulations.

11 (2) SMALL BUSINESS.—The term “small busi-
12 ness” means any provider of broadband Internet ac-
13 cess service that has not more than 250,000 sub-
14 scribers.

Passed the House of Representatives March 16,
2016.

Attest:

KAREN L. HAAS,

Clerk.