

2008 Legislative and Regulatory Conference



OPASTCO



Ask Your Members of Congress

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ask your Representative to oppose the Barton draft Universal Service Fund bill or any similar legislation.

- If enacted, the legislation would basically eliminate the High-Cost universal service program.

Ask your Representative to cosponsor H.R. 2054, the Universal Service Reform Act of 2007, introduced by Representatives Rick Boucher (D-VA) and Lee Terry (R-NE).

- Expands the base of service providers and revenues subject to universal service contributions.
- States that support received by carriers should be based on their actual costs.
- Imposes a cap on the High-Cost program, which OPASTCO opposes and will seek to remove from the legislation.

Ask your Representative to cosponsor H.R. 278, introduced by Congresswoman Barbara Cubin (R-WY), which permanently exempts the Universal Service Fund from the Antideficiency Act accounting requirements.

- Legislation needs to be enacted by the end of the year, before the temporary one-year exemption expires.

U.S. SENATE

Ask your Senator to cosponsor S. 2919, introduced by Senator Ted Stevens (R-AK), which seeks to combat “phantom traffic.”

- Creates the obligation that voice communications service providers ensure that all calls contain sufficient information to reasonably facilitate intercarrier billing.
- Extends the obligation to VoIP and intermediate providers.

Ask your Senator to cosponsor S. 609, introduced by Senators Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) and Olympia Snowe (R-ME), which permanently exempts the Universal Service Fund from the Antideficiency Act accounting requirements.

- Legislation needs to be enacted by the end of the year, before the temporary one-year exemption expires.

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