

2022 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE BILL NO. 447

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 11, 2022

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia adding in Article 7 of Chapter 21 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-2161, relating to broadband providers; affordable monthly plan.*

Patron—Rasoul

Committee Referral Pending

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 7 of Chapter 21 of Title 15.2 a section numbered 15.2-2161 as follows:

§ 15.2-2161. Provision of broadband services; affordable monthly plan.

A. As used in this section, "broadband provider" means a provider of fixed broadband Internet access service and includes any entity required to provide the federal government with information on Federal Communications Commission Form 477 or as part of the federal Digital Opportunity Data Collection program or a provider of satellite-based broadband Internet access service that has been designated as an eligible telecommunications carrier pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(6) for any portion of the Commonwealth.

B. Each broadband provider operating in the Commonwealth shall offer to each of its customers an affordable monthly plan for broadband services that (i) does not exceed \$50 per month and (ii) meets the faster of either (a) the standards for advanced service as defined by the Federal Communications Commission or (b) a minimum broadband speed level of 50 megabits per second for download speed and 25 megabits per second for upload speed.

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