

SB0605/113428/1

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 605
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, strike “**Oversight**” and substitute “**Study**”; strike line 4 in its entirety; in line 5, strike “authorizing” and substitute “requiring”; strike beginning with “exercise” in line 5 down through “circumstances;” in line 9 and substitute “conduct a study and make recommendations on the potential scope, structure, and implementation of Commission oversight of broadband service and voice over Internet protocol service;”; and strike in their entirety lines 11 through 25, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, in line 27, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”; and after line 27, insert:

“(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) (i) “Broadband service” means a mass-market retail service that provides the capability to transmit data to and receive data from all or substantially all Internet endpoints, including any capabilities that are incidental to and enable the operation of communications services provided by an Internet service provider.

(ii) “Broadband service” does not include dial-up Internet service.

(3) “Internet service provider” means an entity that provides broadband service to a customer in the State through any of the following modes:

(i) wireline;

(ii) fixed wireless;

(iii) mobile wireless; or

(iv) satellite.

(4) (i) “Voice over Internet protocol service” or “VoIP service” means any service that:

1. enables real-time two-way voice communications that originate from or terminate to the subscriber end user’s location requiring Internet protocol or any successor protocol to Internet protocol; and

2. requires a broadband connection from the user’s location.

(ii) “Voice over Internet protocol service” or “VoIP service” includes any service that allows users generally to receive calls that originate on the public switched telephone network and to terminate calls to the public switched telephone network.

(b) The Public Service Commission shall conduct a study and make recommendations regarding the potential scope, structure, and implementation of Commission oversight of broadband service and VoIP service in the State, including considering:

(1) the extent to which federal jurisdiction preempts State regulation of broadband service and VoIP service;

(2) an appropriate regulatory framework to implement oversight of broadband service and VoIP service that encompasses:

(i) standards for Internet service provider resiliency and reliability, including the requirement to submit outage data;

(ii) standards for Internet service provider emergency preparedness;

(iii) public disclosure reporting requirements for the availability, deployment, pricing, and adoption of broadband services and VoIP services;

(iv) a customer complaint process at the Commission; and

(v) a publicly accessible resource that contains information on broadband services, including prices;

(3) the applicability of the current regulatory framework for landline telecommunications to the regulation of broadband services and VoIP services;

(4) the expected cost to the Commission to implement the appropriate regulatory framework and obtain the resources necessary to regulate broadband services and VoIP services;

(5) statutory mechanisms and regulatory mechanisms utilized in other states to oversee broadband services and VoIP services; and

(6) any legislative changes that must be enacted to establish the Commission's oversight authority.

(c) On or before December 31, 2026, the Public Service Commission shall report, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, its findings and recommendations to the Senate Committee on Education, Energy, and the Environment, the House Environment and Transportation Committee, and the General Assembly.”.

(Over)

SB0605/113428/01 **Finance Committee**
Amendments to SB 605
Page 4 of 4

On pages 2 through 5, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 1 on page 2 through line 8 on page 5, inclusive.

On page 5, in line 10, strike "October" and substitute "July".