

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H. R. 2409, With an
Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a
new text)**

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2409

To allow servicemembers to terminate their cable, satellite television, and
Internet access service contracts while deployed.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 11, 2017

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. KILMER) introduced the
following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

A BILL

To allow servicemembers to terminate their cable, satellite
television, and Internet access service contracts while
deployed.

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. TERMINATION OF MULTICHANNEL VIDEO PRO-**
2 **GRAMMING AND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE**
3 **CONTRACTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 305A of the
5 Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3956) is
6 amended—

7 (1) in the section heading, by inserting “, **MUL-**
8 **TICHANNEL VIDEO PROGRAMMING, AND**
9 **INTERNET ACCESS**” after “**TELEPHONE**”;

10 (2) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the
11 following new paragraph:

12 “(4) **ADDITIONAL INDIVIDUALS COVERED.**—For
13 purposes of this section, the following individuals
14 shall be treated as a servicemember covered by para-
15 graph (1):

16 “(A) A spouse of a servicemember who
17 dies while in military service or a spouse of a
18 member of the reserve components who dies
19 while performing duty described in subpara-
20 graph (B).

21 “(B) A member of the reserve components
22 performing military service or performing full-
23 time National Guard duty, active Guard and
24 Reserve duty, or inactive-duty training (as such
25 terms are defined in section 101(d) of title 10,
26 United States Code).”;

1 (3) in subsection (b), by striking “cellular tele-
2 phone service or telephone exchange service” and in-
3 serting “commercial mobile service, telephone ex-
4 change service, Internet access service, or multi-
5 channel video programming service”;

6 (4) in subsection (c), by inserting “for commer-
7 cial mobile service or telephone exchange service” be-
8 fore “terminated”;

9 (5) in subsection (d), in the matter preceding
10 paragraph (1), by striking “cellular telephone serv-
11 ice” and inserting “commercial mobile service”;

12 (6) in subsection (e)—

13 (A) by striking “For any” and inserting
14 the following:

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For any”;

16 (B) by striking “If the” and inserting the
17 following:

18 “(2) REINSTATEMENT OF SERVICE.—If the”;

19 and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(3) RETURN OF PROVIDER-OWNED EQUIP-
22 MENT.—If a servicemember terminates a contract
23 under subsection (a), the servicemember shall return
24 any provider-owned consumer premises equipment to

1 the service provider not later than 10 days after the
2 date on which service is disconnected.”; and

3 (7) in subsection (g)—

4 (A) by redesignating paragraph (2) as
5 paragraph (4); and

6 (B) by striking paragraph (1) and insert-
7 ing the following:

8 “(1) The term ‘commercial mobile service’ has
9 the meaning given that term in section 332(d) of the
10 Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d)).

11 “(2) The term ‘multichannel video program-
12 ming service’ means a subscription video service of-
13 fered by a multichannel video programming dis-
14 tributor, as that term is defined in section 602 of
15 the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 522),
16 over a system the distributor owns or controls.

17 “(3) The term ‘provider-owned consumer prem-
18 ises equipment’ means any equipment that a pro-
19 vider of Internet access service or multichannel video
20 programming service rents or loans to a customer
21 during the provision of that service, including gate-
22 ways, routers, cable modems, voice-capable modems,
23 CableCARDS, converters, digital adapters, remote
24 controls, and any other equipment provided.”.

25 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

1 (1) TITLE HEADING.—The heading for title III
2 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act is amended
3 by striking “**TELEPHONE**” and inserting
4 “**COMMUNICATIONS**”.

5 (2) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of con-
6 tents in section 1(b) of the Servicemembers Civil Re-
7 lief Act is amended—

8 (A) by striking the item relating to title III
9 and inserting the following:

“TITLE III—RENT, INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS, MORTGAGES,
LIENS, ASSIGNMENT, LEASES, COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE CON-
TRACTS”;

10 and

11 (B) by striking the item relating to section
12 305A and inserting the following:

“Sec. 305A. Termination of telephone, multichannel video programming, and
Internet access service contracts.”.