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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to authorize the termination of certain consumer service contracts by a servicemember who enters into such a contract after receiving military orders for permanent change of station, but then receives a stop movement order due to an emergency situation, or a dependent of such a servicemember.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LEVIN of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to authorize the termination of certain consumer service contracts by a servicemember who enters into such a contract after receiving military orders for permanent change of station, but then receives a stop movement order due to an emergency situation, or a dependent of such a servicemember.

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 “Emergency Relief for
3 Servicemembers Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF CERTAIN CONSUMER CONTRACTS**
5 **BY SERVICEMEMBERS AND DEPENDENTS**
6 **WHO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS AFTER RE-**
7 **CEIVING MILITARY ORDERS FOR PERMA-**
8 **NENT CHANGE OF STATION BUT THEN RE-**
9 **CEIVE STOP MOVEMENT ORDERS DUE TO AN**
10 **EMERGENCY SITUATION.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 305A of the
12 Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. 3956) is
13 amended—

14 (1) in the section heading, by striking “**TELE-**
15 **PHONE, MULTICHANNEL VIDEO PROGRAM-**
16 **MING, AND INTERNET ACCESS SERVICE**” and
17 inserting “**CERTAIN CONSUMER**”;

18 (2) in subsection (a)—

19 (A) in the heading, by adding “**OR DE-**
20 **PENDENT OF A SERVICEMEMBER**” at the end;

21 (B) in paragraph (1)—

22 (i) by striking “after the date the
23 servicemember receives military orders to
24 relocate for a period of not less than 90
25 days to a location that does not support
26 the contract.” and inserting “after—”; and

1 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
2 lowing:

3 “(A) the date the servicemember receives mili-
4 tary orders to relocate for a period of not less than
5 90 days to a location that does not support the con-
6 tract; or

7 “(B) the date the servicemember, while in mili-
8 tary service, receives military orders for a permanent
9 change of station, thereafter enters into the con-
10 tract, and then receives a stop movement order
11 issued by the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary
12 of Homeland Security in response to a local, na-
13 tional, or global emergency, effective for an indefi-
14 nite period or for a period of not less than 30 days,
15 that prevents the servicemember from using the
16 services provided under the contract.”; and

17 (C) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end
18 the following new subparagraph:

19 “(D) The spouse or dependent of a service-
20 member, described in paragraph (1)(B), who
21 accompanies such servicemember during the pe-
22 riod of relocation.”;

23 (3) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
24 following:

1 “(b) COVERED CONTRACTS.—A contract described in
2 this subsection is a contract—

3 “(1) for—

4 “(A) commercial mobile service;

5 “(B) telephone exchange service;

6 “(C) internet access service;

7 “(D) multichannel video programming
8 service;

9 “(E) a gym membership or fitness pro-
10 gram; or

11 “(F) home security services; and

12 “(2) entered into by a servicemember before re-
13 ceiving the military orders referred to in subsection
14 (a)(1).”; and

15 (4) in subsection (g)—

16 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3),
17 and (4) as paragraphs (3), (4), and (5),
18 respectively; and

19 (B) by inserting, after paragraph (1), the
20 following new paragraph (2):

21 “(2) The terms ‘military orders’ and ‘perma-
22 nent change of station’ have the meanings given
23 such terms in section 305.”.

1 (b) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—The amendments
2 made by this section shall apply to stop movement orders
3 issued on or after March 1, 2020.