

1 State of Arkansas  
2 91st General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2017  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1593

5 By: Representative Collins  
6 By: Senator Rapert  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE  
10 TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY REFORM ACT OF 2013; TO  
11 MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS CONCERNING ELIGIBLE  
12 TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIERS TO COMPLY WITH RECENT  
13 DEVELOPMENTS IN FEDERAL LAW; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY;  
14 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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18 TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE  
19 TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY REFORM ACT  
20 OF 2013 TO COMPLY WITH RECENT  
21 DEVELOPMENTS IN FEDERAL LAW; AND TO  
22 DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.  
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24

25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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27 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 23-17-405(c), concerning eligible  
28 telecommunications carriers under the Telecommunications Regulatory Reform  
29 Act of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

30 (c)(1) In exchanges, ~~or~~ wire centers, census blocks, or other areas  
31 where the commission has designated more than one (1) eligible  
32 telecommunications carrier, the commission shall permit a local exchange  
33 carrier to relinquish its designation as an eligible telecommunications  
34 carrier in any such area, consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(4), upon a  
35 finding that at least one (1) eligible telecommunications carrier ~~will~~  
36 ~~continue to serve~~ serves the area.



1           (2) In an area in which a local exchange carrier ~~is not an~~ has  
 2 relinquished its eligible telecommunications carrier designation, the local  
 3 exchange carrier may:

4                   (A) Continue providing services, including universal  
 5 services; and

6                   (B)(i) Discontinue providing services, including universal  
 7 services.

8                           (ii) If a local exchange carrier discontinues  
 9 providing a basic local exchange service under subdivision (c)(2)(B)(i) of  
 10 this section, the carrier shall notify affected customers in writing at least  
 11 ninety (90) days before discontinuing the service.

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 13           SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
 14 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that federal law requires a change  
 15 in the Telecommunications Regulatory Reform Act of 2013; that the regulation  
 16 of eligible telecommunications carriers under state law must be updated in  
 17 order to comply with federal law; and that this act is necessary to avoid a  
 18 potential conflict between state and federal law concerning regulation of  
 19 eligible telecommunications carriers. Therefore, an emergency is declared to  
 20 exist, and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace,  
 21 health, and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2017.