

ASSEMBLY, No. 5352

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2021

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Assemblyman PAUL D. MORIARTY

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblyman JAMES J. KENNEDY

District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblywomen Murphy, Vainieri Huttie, Assemblyman Conaway,
Assemblywoman Reynolds-Jackson, Assemblymen Space and Wirths**

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits Internet service providers from increasing service rates during public health emergency or state of emergency; requires Internet service providers to notify subscribers six months in advance of service rate increase.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/12/2021)

1 **AN ACT** concerning Internet service providers and rate increases
2 and supplementing Title 56 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. As used in P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
8 Legislature as this bill):

9 “Internet service provider” means a person, business, or
10 organization qualified to do business in this State that provides
11 individuals, businesses, or other entities with the ability to connect
12 by wireline or radio frequency to the Internet through equipment
13 that is located in this State.

14 “Public health emergency” shall have the same meaning as
15 provided in section 2 of P.L.2005, c.222 (C.26:13-2).

16 “State of emergency” means declaration of an emergency by the
17 Governor pursuant to P.L.1942, c.251 (C.App.A:9-33 et seq.).

18
19 2. a. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the
20 contrary, an Internet service provider shall be prohibited from
21 increasing the Internet service rates of any subscriber in this State
22 for the duration of a declared public health emergency, state of
23 emergency, or both.

24 b. An Internet service provider shall provide written notice to a
25 subscriber in this State, in a form and manner determined by the
26 Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department of Law and Public
27 Safety, of any Internet service rate increase anticipated by the
28 Internet service provider at least six months in advance of the
29 Internet service rate increase.

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31 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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36 This bill prohibits an Internet service provider (ISP) from
37 increasing the Internet service rates of any subscriber in this State
38 for the duration of a declared public health emergency, state of
39 emergency, or both. The bill also requires an ISP to provide written
40 notice to a subscriber in this State, in a form and manner
41 determined by the Division of Consumer Affairs in the Department
42 of Law and Public Safety, of any Internet service rate increase
43 anticipated by the ISP at least six months in advance of the Internet
44 service rate increase.