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## Regulatory Review

*The Miller Isar, Inc. Regulatory Review is a monthly report designed to provide information regarding regulatory and policy developments that may impact business operations. The Regulatory Review is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal opinion or legal counsel.*

### FEDERAL REGULATORY NEWS



#### 2Q20 USF CONTRIBUTION FACTOR SET

On March 2, 2020, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) submitted the [Federal Universal Service Support Mechanisms Quarterly Contribution Base](#) for Second Quarter 2020. The total projected collected interstate and international end-user revenue base to be used in determining the contribution factor for the universal service fund support mechanisms for Second Quarter 2020 was \$10,865,131,593, down from \$11,129,976,956 in the previous quarter.

On March 13, 2020, the Commission Office of Managing Director released a [public notice](#), announcing the proposed universal service contribution factor for the second quarter of 2020 will be 19.6 percent. This is a reduction from first quarter 2020's 21.2 percent contribution factor, consistent with USAC's contribution base projections. (CC Docket No. 96-45)

#### STATE OF COMPETITION IN COMMUNICATIONS MARKETPLACE COMMENTS DUE APRIL 13

On February 27, 2020, the Commission's Office of Economics and Analytics (OEA) issued a [public notice](#) requesting comment on the state of competition in the communications marketplace. Information collected from comments is to be used in the OEA's second annual communications marketplace report. On February 20, 2020, the OEA [updated](#) certain figures, maps and tables contained in its [first report](#). Comments are due April 13, 2020; replies are due May 13, 2020.

#### \$200M FINE PROPOSED FOR AT&T, VERIZON, T-MOBILE AND SPRINT FOR CPNI VIOLATIONS

On February 28, 2020, the Commission [announced](#) that it is proposing fines a total of \$200M in fines against the largest wireless carriers in the U.S. for failing to take reasonable measures to protect against unauthorized access to customer location data. The Commission proposed fines of over \$91M for [T-Mobile](#), \$57M for [AT&T](#), \$48M for [Verizon](#) and \$12M for [Sprint](#), while admonishing the companies for selling location data to third parties without customer consent in violation of Commission customer proprietary network information (CPNI) rules. According to Notices of Apparent Liability issued against the companies, the companies had sold location data to several third-party aggregators without subscriber consent. The Companies maintained that they had procedures in place to prevent unauthorized sharing of CPNI. T-Mobile has already reportedly indicated that it plans to appeal. (File Nos.: EB-TCD-18-00027702, EB-TCD-18-00027704, EB-TCD-18-00027698, EB-TCD-18-00027700)

#### COMMISSION PROPOSES SHARING OUTAGE INFORMATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

On February 28, 2020, the Commission released [noticed](#) that it has proposed a framework for sharing detailed communications outage information with state and federal agencies. The Commission's framework, contained in a March 2,

2020 [Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#), is intended to improve situational awareness to enhance agencies' ability to respond more quickly to service outages. Under the Commission's proposal, the Commission would share Network Outage Reporting System (NORS) and Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS) data with participating agencies, including first responders and other governmental agencies. Participating agencies would be required to treat NORS and DIRS filings as confidential. Additionally, the Commission proposed an application process that would grant agencies access to this information only after certifying to requirements for maintaining the confidentiality of the data and the security of the databases. Comments are due 30 days following publication in the *Federal Register*; reply comments are due 60 days following *Federal Register* publication (PS Docket No. 15-08)

#### **RESTORING INTERNET FREEDOM – LIFELINE PROCEEDING COMMENTS EXTENDED**

On March 3, 2020 the Commission released a [public notice](#) requesting comments to refresh the record in its Restoring Internet Freedom (RIF) and Lifeline proceedings regarding the issues remanded to the Commission by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit's Mozilla [decision](#). The Bureau specifically seeks comment on how changes adopted in the RIF [order](#) might affect: public safety; the regulation of pole attachments in states subject to federal regulation; and the Lifeline program. On March 25, 2020, the Commission issued an [order](#) granting a 21-day extension of time for filing comments in the proceedings. Comments are now due April 20, 2020; reply comments are due May 20, 2020. Commissioners [Rosenworcel](#) and [Starks](#) issued statements (WC Docket Nos. 17-108, 17-287, 11-42)

#### **COMMISSION SEEKS COMMENTS REGARDING CONTINUING INTEREST IN USF/ICC TRANSFORMATION ORDER PETITIONS**

On March 4, 2020, the Commission's January 14, 2020 [public notice](#) seeking to assess parties' continuing interests in [petitions for reconsideration](#) of various aspects of the intercarrier compensation provisions of the 2011 USF/ICC Transformation Order was published in the *Federal Register*. With *Federal Register* publication, the comment deadline is April 20, 2020. The Bureau had stated its intent to dismiss eight petitions for reconsideration of aspects of the intercarrier compensation provisions of the USF/ICC Transformation Order, noting that each petition was filed in 2011 and no entities had filed comments or *ex parte* submissions regarding these petitions for several years. The Commission also noted that several requests for relief "appear to be moot or are otherwise no longer relevant in light of regulatory changes, including ongoing intercarrier compensation and universal service reforms, that have occurred since these filings were made." (WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.*)

#### **DISCLOSURE, REPORTING, CERTIFICATION PRA COMMENTS DUE MAY 19**

On March 5, 2020, a Commission notice was published in the *Federal Register* requesting Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments on extension of a currently approved information collection associated with information disclosure requirements, internet posting requirements, recordkeeping requirements and annual certification requirements, pursuant to sections 42.10, 42.11 and 64.1900 of the Commission's rules and section 254(g) of the 1996 Telecommunications Act, as amended. The Commission stated that the requirements are needed to provide consumers ready access to information concerning the rates, terms and conditions governing the provision of interstate, domestic services offered by nondominant interexchange carriers. PRA comments are due May 4, 2020.

#### **VOICE TELEPHONE SERVICE REPORTS RELEASED**

On March 6, 2020, the Commission's Office of Economics and Analytics (OEA) released its [voice telephone services report](#) summarizing data collected on voice telephone services as of December 31, 2018. According to the Report, as of December 2018, there were 44 million end-user switched access lines in service, 67 million interconnected VoIP subscriptions, and 348 million mobile subscriptions in the United States. Interconnected VoIP subscriptions increased at a compound annual growth rate of 4%, mobile voice subscriptions increased at a compound annual growth rate of 2% and retail switched access lines declined at 12% per year over a three-year period. Also on March 6, 2020, the OEA released a [voice telephone services report](#) summarizing information collected regarding telephone services as of the previous period ending June 30, 2018.

## **RURAL DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY FUND ORDER EFFECTIVE APRIL 9 - AUCTION PROCESS COMMENTS DUE MARCH 27**

On March 10, 2020, the Commission's February 7, 2009 [Report and Order](#) adopting a two-phase reverse auction framework for the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF) was published in the [Federal Register](#). Under the *Report and Order* the Commission commits \$20.4 billion in high-cost universal service support to bring high-speed broadband service to unserved Americans. Following Federal Register publication, the *Report and Order* becomes effective on April 9, except for amendments to sections 54.313(e)(annual reporting requirements for high-cost recipients); 54.316(a)(8), (b)(5), (c)(1)(broadband deployment reporting and certification requirements); 54.804 (a) through (c)(application process); and 54.806 (reporting obligations, compliance and recordkeeping), which are subject to Office of Management and Budget approval. (WC Docket Nos. 19-126 and 10-90).

On March 2, 2020, the Commission had issued a [Public Notice](#), initiating a pre- and post-auction application and competitive bidding procedures for RDOF Phase I adopted during the Commission's February 28, 2020 Open Meeting and published in the [Federal Register](#) on March 17, 2020. Under auction Phase I the Commission will award up to \$16B over ten years to service providers that commit to offer voice and broadband services to fixed locations in eligible unserved high-cost census blocks. The Commission said it expects bidding to begin on October 22, 2020. Comments were due March 27, 2020; replies are due April 10, 2020.

Separately, on March 2, 2020, the Commission's Office of Economics and Analytics, in conjunction with the Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force and the Wireline Competition Bureau, issued a [Public Notice](#) announcing release of a RDOF technical guide regarding the proposed bidding procedures for Phase I of the RDOF. The guide provides examples and serves as a supplement to the bidding and bid processing procedures for the descending clock auction. The Commission has posted detailed information on the RDOF auction process at its [Auction 904 web site](#).

### **TRACED ACT RULEMAKING INITIATED**

On March 11, 2020, the Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [Public Notice](#), announcing initiation of a new proceeding to implement TRACED Act Section 6(a) - Knowledge of Customers by Entities With Access to Numbering Resources. On March 13, 2020, the Commission placed an [item on circulation](#) entitled "Implementing Section 13(d) of the Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act (TRACED Act)." (WC Docket No. 20-67)

### **PRA COMMENTS SOUGHT ON NUMBERING AUDIT AND SLAMMING INFORMATION COLLECTION**

On March 11, 2020, the Commission published a notice in the [Federal Register](#) seeking Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments on extension of a currently approved information collection associated with numbering audits. The Commission stated that random audits are conducted on the carriers that use numbering resources to verify the accuracy of numbering data reported on FCC Form 502, and to monitor compliance with related Commission rules, orders and applicable industry guidelines. PRA comments are due May 11, 2020.

Separately, on March 11, the Commission published a notice in the [Federal Register](#) to request PRA comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with the prevention of the unauthorized change by telecommunications carriers of consumers' selections of telecommunications service providers. PRA comments are due April 10, 2020.

### **BROADBAND DATA RELEASED**

On March 12, 2020, the Commission's Office of Economics and Analytics, the Wireline Competition Bureau and the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau issued a [Public Notice](#) to announce release of current fixed broadband deployment, mobile voice, broadband deployment as of June 30, 2019. The data are based on FCC Form Form 477 submissions. [Fixed deployment data](#) includes revisions made by filers through February 25, 2020, and [mobile deployment data](#) includes revisions made by filers through December 1, 2019.

## **TOLL FREE NUMBER AUCTION COMMENTS DUE APRIL 13**

On March 13, 2020, the Wireline Competition Bureau issued a [Public Notice](#), requesting comment on the 833 area code toll free number auction. The Bureau seeks comment on auction outcomes, lessons learned and future recommendations for toll free number assignment methodologies, among other items. The FCC [established](#) the auction as an experiment in using competitive bidding as a way to assign toll free numbers. Comments are due April 13, 2020. (WC Docket No. 17-192 CC Docket No. 95-155)

## **SUPPLY CHAIN BILL APPLICABILITY – PRA COMMENTS REQUESTED**

On March 13, 2020, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau released a [Public Notice](#) to request comment on the applicability of the recent [Secure and Trusted Communications Act of 2019](#) to the designation proceedings involving Huawei Technologies and ZTE Corporation. According to the *Public Notice*, “On March 12, 2020, the Secure Networks Act became law. The Secure Networks Act directs the Commission to publish a list of covered communications equipment or services that meet two criteria. First, the Act states that equipment or services shall be placed on the list if they are ‘produced or provided by any entity’ that ‘poses an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States or the security and safety of United States persons,’ pursuant to certain determinations set forth in the Act.” Specifically, the Bureau sought comment on whether and how the Secure Networks Act should inform our consideration of the designations of Huawei and ZTE. Comments were due March 27, 2020. (PS Docket No. 19-351 (Huawei Designation) PS Docket No. 19-352 (ZTE Designation))

In a related matter, on March 20, 2020, a Commission [notice](#) was published in the *Federal Register* to request Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with supply chain and national security. The Commission said the information collection is designed to collect data from eligible telecommunications carriers and other carriers to determine the extent of which potentially prohibited equipment exists in current networks and the costs associated with removing such equipment and replacing it with equivalent equipment. PRA comments are due May 19, 2020.

## **CARRIERS SIGN ON TO KEEP AMERICA CONNECTED PLEDGE**

On March 16, 2020 Chairman Pai [announced](#) that 116 more broadband and telephone service providers have taken his [Keep Americans Connected Pledge](#). The Pledge calls on broadband and telephone service providers to promote connectivity for Americans impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic. Specifically, providers agree that they will not terminate service due to non-payment of bills; will waive late fees; and will open their Wi-Fi hot spots for any Americans who need them, for the next sixty days. The Pledge had been [announced](#) by Chairman Pai on March 13, 2020. Nearly 600 companies had taken the pledge by the end of March. Commissioners Rosenworcel and Starks issued statements. (See [FCC Keep Americans Connected Web Site](#))

## **ACCESS ARBITRAGE ORDER SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE ISSUED**

On March 16, 2020, the Commission released a [small entity compliance guide](#) pertaining to the Commission’s September 2019 [Report and Order](#) that adopted reforms to eliminate access arbitration schemes. The guide provides information on compliance, reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and effective and implementation dates. (WC Docket No. 18-15)

## **COMMISSION LAUNCHES COVID-19 ROBOCALL SCAM WEB PAGE**

On March 20, 2020, the Commission issued an [advisory](#), announcing launch of a COVID-19 Consumer Warnings and Safety Tips [webpage](#). The webpage is designed to alert consumers of the proliferation of Coronavirus pandemic-related robocalls and texts.

## **COMMISSION APPROVES ROBOCALL CONSORTIUM RULES – REQUESTS PROCESS RULE COMMENTS**

On March 27, 2020 the Commission released a [Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) in its proceeding to implement Section 13(d) of Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act (TRACED Act). The *Report and Order* amends Commission rules to establish registration of a single consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls, pursuant to the TRACED Act. Under the *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, the Commission requests comment on what rules, if any, the Commission needs to guide that process and the obligations it should impose on providers that repeatedly engage in robocalling to end those

practices. Comments are due 30 days after publication in the Federal Register; replies are due 45 days after publication. (EB Docket No. 20-22)

### **COMMISSION PROPOSES TO DETARRIFF – PROHIBIT END USER CHARGES**

On March 31, 2020, issued a [release](#) regarding Commission adoption of a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) that would deregulate and detariff all remaining interstate end user charges still subject to Commission regulation, including subscriber line charges, access recovery charges, line port charges, special access charges, and presubscribed interexchange carrier charges, among others. Additionally, the Commission would prohibit carriers from separately listing these charges on customers' bills. According to the release, "Eliminating these obscurely worded line items will make it easier for consumers to understand their telephone bills, compare prices among voice service providers, and better ensure that a voice service provider's advertised price is closer to the total price that appears on its customers' bills." The action follows Commission Chairman Pai's proposal, outline in a March 10, 2020 [blog](#). The Commission would also prohibit the billing of all end user charges. According to Pai, "eliminating these line-item charges would make it easier for consumers to understand their phone bills and compare prices among voice service providers as well as help ensure that a carrier's advertised prices are closer to the prices that consumers actually pay." (WC Docket No. 20-71)

### **PRA COMMENTS DUE ON NUMBERING RESOURCE APPLICATION AND PAYPHONE COMPENSATION**

On March 31, 2020, the Commission published two notices in the *Federal Register* seeing Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) comments on numbering resource application and payphone compensation. The first [notice](#) requested PRA comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection regarding access to numbering resource application information. The Commission noted the information collected will be used by the Commission, state commissions, the North American Number Plan Administrator, and the pooling administrator to verify the validity and accuracy of application data and assist state commissions in carrying out their numbering responsibilities, such as area code relief.

The second [notice](#) requests PRA comments on an extension of a currently approved information collection associated with payphone compensation. PRA comments regarding both matters are due April 30, 2020.

### **COMMISSION ADOPTS ITEMS ON MARCH 31 OPEN MEETING**

On March 31, 2020, the Commission released a list of items [deleted](#) from those listed on its March 24, 2020 [agenda](#) for the March 31, 2020 Open Meeting, as the items had previously been adopted prior to the meeting. During its Open Meeting, the Commission adopted nine items, including: a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* proposing to eliminate *ex ante* pricing regulation and require detariffing of various end-user charges (see above); a [Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) adopting rules requiring originating and terminating voice service providers to implement the STIR/SHAKEN caller ID authentication framework in the IP portions of their networks, and proposing additional measures to combat illegal spoofing, including measures to implement portions of the TRACED Act; and a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) seeking comment on whether to modify the Commission's rules governing the use of distributed transmission systems by broadcast television stations.

### **BEFORE CONGRESS**



#### **SUPPLY CHAIN BILL ENACTED**

On March 12, 2020, President Trump [signed into law](#), [HR 4998, the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act of 2019](#). The new law prohibits the use of federal funds, including universal service funds, to purchase equipment from companies that pose a national security threat.

The new program also establishes the Secure and Trusted Communications Reimbursement Program, designed to assist communications providers with fewer than 2 million customers defray the cost of removing and replacing prohibited equipment and services from their networks. The Secure and Trusted Communications Network codifies the USF prohibition. The new law directs the Commission to create and periodically update the list of prohibited equipment and services. Last fall the Commission specifically prohibited carriers from using Universal Service Fund support to purchase equipment from "covered carriers" that the Commission deemed presents a national security threat to communications networks. The Commission designated Huawei Technologies Co. and ZTE Corp. as "covered carriers." Under the new law, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the director of national intelligence, are to share information about supply chain security risks "with trusted



providers of advanced communications service and trusted suppliers of communications equipment or services.” Chairman Pai released a [statement](#).

## **BROADBAND MAPPING, 5G SECURITY BILLS ENACTED**

On March 24, 2020, President Trump [signed](#) the [Broadband DATA Act](#) the [Secure 5G and Beyond Act of 2020](#) into law. The Broadband DATA Act requires the Commission to collect and disseminate granular broadband service availability data from wired, fixed-wireless, satellite and mobile broadband providers. The House passed the bill on March 3, 2020. It passed the Senate on March 10, 2020. The Secure 5G and Beyond Act of 2020 requires the president to develop a strategy to ensure the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure in the United States, and assist allies and strategic partners in maximizing the security of next generation mobile telecommunications systems and infrastructure. The senate passed the Secure 5G and Beyond Act” on March 4, 2020. Chairman Pai issued a [statement](#) on the Broadband DATA Act bill.

### **IN THE COURTS**

#### **COMMISSION FILES BRIEF IN USTELECOM FORBEARANCE PETITION APPEALS**



On March 25, 2020, the Commission filed a [brief](#) with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia regarding [INCOMPAS](#) and the [California PUC](#) appeals of the Commission’s August 2019 [memorandum opinion and order](#) that granted USTelecom’s [petition for forbearance](#) for unbundled network element analog loop and avoided-cost resale obligations for price cap incumbent local exchange carriers. The Commission maintained that its order’s analytical framework was consistent with the Act, the Court’s precedent and Commission precedent, and argued that it had reasonably forborne from enforcing UNE and a voided cost resale requirements for price-cap regulated local exchange carriers. (*Comptel d/b/a Incompas, et al. v. Federal Communications Commission and United States of America*, Nos. 19-1164, 19-1202)

#### **SIXTH CIRCUIT DENIES COMMISSION FRANCHISE FEE ORDER STAY REQUEST**

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit (Cincinnati, OH) has denied a request for stay of the FCC’s “in-kind” franchise fee. Petitioners, which included several state and local government entities and others in consolidated cases, sought the stay pending judicial review. According to the Court, “the only part of the Third Order that the franchising authorities challenge in their motion to stay is the FCC’s interpretation of ‘franchise fee.’ ... Our decision in the last appeal should make clear to everyone that we take seriously the franchising authorities’ disagreements with the FCC regarding interpretation of the Act. But in essence the franchising authorities have asked us to enjoin what appears to be a correct interpretation of a federal statute. We lack authority to do that.” (*City of Eugene, Ore., et al. v. FCC*, case 19-4161)

#### **D.C. CIRCUIT DISMISSES PETITION FOR REVIEW OF COMMISSION SEPARATIONS FREEZE ORDER**

On March 13, 2020, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit dismissed a [petition for review](#) filed by the Irregulars, *et al.* of the Commission’s separations freeze [order](#), finding that the petitioners lacked standing to appeal. In its [opinion](#), the court concluded that petitioners had not presented evidence that the continuing application of the frozen rules had harmed, or were likely to harm, petitioners, and the petitioners do not purchase telephone service from a provider whose rates are directly affected by the rules and lack standing to appeal.

### **STATE REGULATORY NEWS**



#### **CALIFORNIA – Commission “Dependable Communications Proposed**

On March 6, 2020, California Public Utilities Commission President Marybel Batjer released an [Assigned Commissioner’s Ruling and Proposal](#) for maintaining “resilient and dependable communications networks during catastrophic events.” Under the proposal, providers would be required to have on-site emergency backup power to support all essential communications equipment necessary to maintain service for a minimum of 72 hours immediately following a power outage. The proposal also recommends resiliency planning in areas prone to outage events and wildfires. Additionally, the Commission is requesting comment on adoption of rules mandating that communications providers “share the location of critical facilities with emergency responders, fulfill additional requirements for disaster preparedness, and be required to report communications outages to the [Commission] during a disaster.” Providers would also be required to submit geographic information system information with the specific location of network facilities and

backhaul routes to the Commission annually. The Commission would share geographic information system information with state and local emergency responders ahead of a disaster. The proposal would further require providers to submit emergency operations plans to the commission and to certain emergency responders. According to the commission, the proposals “are an effort to develop a uniform and structured approach for ensuring communications providers are meeting every facet of their responsibility to provide safe and reliable service to Californians in future disasters.” Communications resiliency measures are expected to be in place by summer 2020. (Rulemaking 18-03-011)

#### **SOUTH DAKOTA – Location Information Law Enacted**

Governor Kristi Noem (R) has signed HB 1129, a bill authorizing provision of telecommunications device location information to law enforcement agencies, into law. Under the new law, a law enforcement agency or public safety answering point on behalf of a law enforcement agency may request from a wireless telecommunications carrier information regarding the location of a telecom device, “if the highest ranking person on duty at the agency authorizes the request based on a determination that: (1) The information is necessary to facilitate the provision of emergency services; or (2) There exists an emergency situation involving the immediate risk of death or serious physical harm.” When a request is received, a wireless carrier must immediately provide the location to the law enforcement agency and any known subscriber information and information regarding the last time the device was used. Wireless carriers are to provide contact information to the Department of Public Safety under the new law.

#### **TEXAS – New Area Code Overlay Approved**

The Texas Public Utility Commission has approved a North American Numbering Plan Administrator petition for addition of an area code overlay to address the impending number shortage in the 214/469/972 area codes in and around Dallas. Number exhaustion in the area codes had been projected by second quarter 2021 unless an additional area code was added. Customer education regarding the new area code plan will begin in the first quarter of 2020, and the overlay will be in place by the fourth quarter of 2020. (Docket 48765)

#### **WEST VIRGINIA – Commission Requests County-by-County Line Counts**

On March 25, 2020, the West Virginia Public Service Commission issues a second reminder to incumbent and competitive local exchange carriers to provide a local access line counts by county in the state as of March 1. The annual line count submission is required state law (§24-6-6b(c)). According to the Commission, carriers are to report local exchange access lines which are actually assigned to subscribers. Unassigned facilities should not be counted. Residential and business lines, as well as “company official” lines should be counted as should payphone lines whether they are used by phone company public telephones or by public telephones provided by competitive payphone service providers. CENTREX line equivalents should be provided rather than the actual numbers of CENTREX trunks in service (usually CENTREX uses an 8 to 1 trunk-to-line ratio). The Commission notes generally that a line should be counted for all lines and line equivalents for which a 9-1-1 fee is levied. VoIP lines should be counted, though separated from land line counts. There is no prescribed report form.

#### **WISCONSIN – Broadband Tax Exemption Bill Enacted**

Gov. Tony Evers (R) has signed AB 344, a bill to provide a telephone company property tax exemption for property used to provide broadband service to rural and underserved areas, into law. The new law defines “qualified broadband service property” as “tangible personal property that meets any of the following standards: (a) The property is installed prior to Jan. 1, 2020, and is used to provide Internet access service to a rural area at actual speeds that are at least a download speed of 25 megabits per second and an upload speed of 3 megabits per second. (b) The property is installed after Dec. 31, 2019, and is used to provide Internet access service to a rural or underserved area at actual speeds that meet or exceed the higher of the following thresholds: 1. a download speed of 25 megabits per second and an upload speed of 3 megabits per second. 2. the download and upload speed benchmarks for fixed services as designated by the Federal Communications Commission in its inquiries regarding advanced telecommunications capability under 47 USC 1302 (b).”

#### **REGULATORY REPORTING APRIL**

The following report listing has been compiled from past reporting requirements and is provided exclusively for informational purposes. Reporting requirements are subject to change and should be verified by filers.

**FEDERAL REPORTS DUE**

Rural Call Completion Data Collection Report due May 1.

FCC Form 499-A Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet due April 1.

[Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010](#) Compliance certification due April 1.

FCC Annual Rate Integration Letter due May 1.

FCC Form 499Q due May 1

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