S.3954 Markey_1 (Modified) to Cruz Substitute

Edward J Markey

AMENDMENT NO._____ Calendar No._____

Purpose: To require the Government Accountability Office to issue a Lifeline report.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 2d Sess.

S. 3954

To terminate the ability of eligible telecommunications carriers in certain States to use State eligibility determination processes in place of the National Verifier to determine the eligibility of consumers for Lifeline service.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. MARKEY to the amendment (No. _____) proposed by Mr. CRUZ

Viz:

At the end of section 2, add the following:

(e) GAO STUDY ON LIFELINE PROGRAM INTEGRITY AND ENROLLMENT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report examining—

(1) opportunities to strengthen the integrity of the Lifeline program, including improvements to the National Verifier and the National Lifeline Accountability Database to better detect and prevent waste,

fraud, and abuse, and opportunities to improve eligibility verification through additional connections between State benefits databases and the National Verifier;

(2) the potential benefits and risks of requiring applicants for Lifeline service to provide their full Social Security numbers, as opposed to the last 4 digits, including the effectiveness of such a requirement in preventing fraud and its implications for privacy and enrollment; and

(3) barriers to enrollment and continued participation among otherwise eligible consumers in the Lifeline program, including delays associated with eligibility verification, application abandonment, erroneous denials or disenrollments, and challenges associated with household eligibility determinations.