

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4010

To establish radiofrequency licensing authority for certain operations involving certain earth stations and gateway stations, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 21, 2024

Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Ms. ROSEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To establish radiofrequency licensing authority for certain operations involving certain earth stations and gateway stations, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Satellite And Tele-
5 communications Streamlining Act” or the “SAT Stream-
6 lining Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY REGARDING CERTAIN LICENSES.**

2 (a) AMENDMENT.—Part I of title III of the Commu-
 3 nications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) is amended
 4 by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 346. RADIOFREQUENCY LICENSING AUTHORITY RE-**
 6 **LATING TO CERTAIN OPERATIONS.**

7 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) COVERED APPLICATION.—The term ‘cov-
 9 ered application’ means an application for a license
 10 or grant of market access to operate a system de-
 11 scribed in subsection (c)(1)(B) or (d)(1)(B) that is
 12 pending on the date of enactment of this section.

13 “(2) COVERED AUTHORIZATION.—The term
 14 ‘covered authorization’ means—

15 “(A) a license or grant of market access
 16 granted by the Commission to operate a system
 17 described in subsection (c)(1)(B) or (d)(1)(B)
 18 that is in effect on the date of enactment of
 19 this section; or

20 “(B) a license or grant of market access
 21 granted by Commission approval of a covered
 22 application.

23 “(3) COVERED RADIOCOMMUNICATION SERV-
 24 ICE.—The term ‘covered radiocommunication serv-
 25 ice’—

1 “(A) means a radiocommunication service
2 (as defined in the radio regulations of the Inter-
3 national Telecommunication Union that are in
4 force as of the date of enactment of this sec-
5 tion, or any successor regulations); and

6 “(B) does not include any radionavigation
7 or safety service specifically identified by the
8 Commission as a safety service for aeronautical
9 or maritime transportation.

10 “(4) GATEWAY STATION.—The term ‘gateway
11 station’ means an earth station or a group of earth
12 stations that—

13 “(A) supports the routing and switching
14 functions of a system operated under a license
15 granted under subsection (c) or a grant of mar-
16 ket access granted under subsection (d);

17 “(B) may also be used for telemetry, track-
18 ing, and command transmissions;

19 “(C) does not originate or terminate com-
20 munication traffic; and

21 “(D) is not for the exclusive use of any
22 customer.

23 “(5) INDIVIDUALLY LICENSED EARTH STA-
24 TION.—The term ‘individually licensed earth station’
25 means—

1 “(A) an earth station, other than a blan-
 2 ket-licensed earth station, that sends a signal
 3 to, and receives a signal from—

4 “(i) a nongeostationary orbit space
 5 station operated under a license granted
 6 under subsection (c)(1) or a grant of mar-
 7 ket access granted under subsection (d)(1);
 8 or

9 “(ii) a geostationary orbit space sta-
 10 tion operated under a license granted
 11 under subsection (c)(2) or a grant of mar-
 12 ket access granted under subsection (d)(2);
 13 or

14 “(B) a gateway station.

15 “(6) NATIONAL DEFENSE OR SECURITY OF THE
 16 UNITED STATES.—The term ‘national defense or se-
 17 curity of the United States’—

18 “(A) means the protection of the United
 19 States from foreign aggression; and

20 “(B) does not otherwise include the protec-
 21 tion of the general welfare of the United States.

22 “(b) RULES.—Not later than 12 months after the
 23 date of enactment of this section, the Commission shall
 24 issue rules to amend part 25 of title 47, Code of Federal
 25 Regulations, to establish—

1 “(1) for any license granted under subsection
2 (c), specific modifications, or classes of modifica-
3 tions, to the license that warrant expedited treat-
4 ment under subparagraph (A) or (B), as applicable,
5 of subsection (g)(2);

6 “(2) for any license granted under subsection
7 (c), grant of market access granted under subsection
8 (d), authorization granted under subsection (e), or
9 covered authorization, the manner in which the li-
10 censee, grantee, or entity shall notify the Commis-
11 sion of a request to submit a modification under
12 subsection (g)(3);

13 “(3) rules that seek to promote competition, in-
14 novation, and efficient use of spectrum by entities
15 with covered authorizations, including by accounting
16 for advancements in technology capable of managing
17 interference concerns to the greatest extent prac-
18 ticable; and

19 “(4) for any application or request for modifica-
20 tion described in subsection (n), what constitutes re-
21 portable foreign ownership for purposes of para-
22 graph (1) of that subsection.

23 “(c) APPLICATION FOR LICENSE.—

24 “(1) NGSO DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—

25 “(A) IN GENERAL.—

1 “(i) APPLICATIONS.—Except as pro-
2 vided in clause (ii), paragraph (5), and
3 subsection (m), not later than 1 year after
4 the date on which the Commission issues a
5 public notice of the acceptance for filing of
6 a written application submitted to the
7 Commission for a license described in sub-
8 paragraph (B) of this paragraph, the Com-
9 mission shall determine whether to grant
10 the application, including any amendment
11 to the application.

12 “(ii) MAJOR AMENDMENTS.—Except
13 as provided in paragraph (5) and sub-
14 section (m), if a major amendment (within
15 the meaning of section 25.116 of title 47,
16 Code of Federal Regulations, or any suc-
17 cessor regulation) to an application de-
18 scribed in clause (i) is submitted to the
19 Commission, the Commission shall deter-
20 mine whether to grant the application, in-
21 cluding the major amendment and any
22 other amendment to the application, not
23 later than 1 year after the date on which
24 the Commission issues a public notice of

1 the acceptance for filing of the major
2 amendment.”.

3 “(B) TYPES OF APPLICATIONS.—An appli-
4 cation described in this subparagraph is an ap-
5 plication for a license for covered
6 radiocommunication services using—

7 “(i) a nongeostationary orbit space
8 station;

9 “(ii) a blanket-licensed earth station
10 or earth stations that will operate with a
11 nongeostationary orbit space station; or

12 “(iii) a nongeostationary orbit space
13 station and a blanket-licensed earth station
14 or earth stations that will operate with the
15 nongeostationary orbit space station.

16 “(2) GSO DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—

18 “(i) APPLICATIONS.—Except as pro-
19 vided in clause (ii), paragraph (5), and
20 subsection (m), not later than 1 year after
21 the date on which the Commission issues a
22 public notice of the acceptance for filing of
23 a written application submitted to the
24 Commission for a license described in sub-
25 paragraph (B) of this paragraph, the Com-

1 mission shall determine whether to grant
2 the application, including any amendment
3 to the application.

4 “(ii) MAJOR AMENDMENTS.—Except
5 as provided in paragraph (5) and sub-
6 section (m), if a major amendment (within
7 the meaning of section 25.116 of title 47,
8 Code of Federal Regulations, or any suc-
9 cessor regulation) to an application de-
10 scribed in clause (i) is submitted to the
11 Commission, the Commission shall deter-
12 mine whether to grant the application, in-
13 cluding the major amendment and any
14 other amendment to the application, not
15 later than 1 year after the date on which
16 the Commission issues a public notice of
17 the acceptance for filing of the major
18 amendment.

19 “(B) TYPES OF APPLICATIONS.—An appli-
20 cation described in this subparagraph is an ap-
21 plication for a license for covered
22 radiocommunication services using—

23 “(i) a geostationary orbit space sta-
24 tion;

1 “(ii) a blanket-licensed earth station
2 or earth stations that will operate with a
3 geostationary orbit space station; or

4 “(iii) a geostationary orbit space sta-
5 tion and a blanket-licensed earth station or
6 earth stations that will operate with the
7 geostationary orbit space station.

8 “(3) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—In addition
9 to the application requirements described in section
10 308(b), an application submitted under paragraph
11 (1) or (2) shall include performance metrics with re-
12 spect to the frequencies and transmission power to
13 be used.

14 “(4) TERM OF INITIAL LICENSE.—The Com-
15 mission shall grant a license for a term not to exceed
16 15 years for any application granted under this sub-
17 section.

18 “(5) EXCEPTIONS.—The deadline for the deter-
19 mination required in paragraphs (1) and (2) may be
20 extended by the Commission for an application sub-
21 ject to review under subsection (m).

22 “(d) APPLICATION FOR GRANT OF MARKET AC-
23 CESS.—

24 “(1) NGSO DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—

25 “(A) IN GENERAL.—

1 “(i) APPLICATIONS.—Except as pro-
2 vided in clause (ii) and subsection (m),
3 after the date on which the Commission
4 issues a public notice of the acceptance for
5 filing of a written application submitted to
6 the Commission for market access de-
7 scribed in subparagraph (B) of this para-
8 graph, the Commission shall determine
9 whether to grant the application, including
10 any amendment to the application.

11 “(ii) MAJOR AMENDMENTS.—If a
12 major amendment (within the meaning of
13 section 25.116 of title 47, Code of Federal
14 Regulations, or any successor regulation)
15 to an application described in clause (i) is
16 submitted to the Commission, the Commis-
17 sion shall determine whether to grant the
18 application, including the major amend-
19 ment and any other amendment to the ap-
20 plication, not later than 1 year after the
21 date on which the Commission issues a
22 public notice of the acceptance for filing of
23 the major amendment.

24 “(B) TYPES OF APPLICATIONS.—An appli-
25 cation described in this subparagraph is an ap-

1 plication for market access within the United
2 States for covered radiocommunication services
3 using—

4 “(i) a nongeostationary orbit space
5 station;

6 “(ii) a blanket-licensed earth station
7 or earth stations that will operate with a
8 nongeostationary orbit space station; or

9 “(iii) a nongeostationary orbit space
10 station and a blanket-licensed earth station
11 or earth stations that will operate with the
12 nongeostationary orbit space station.

13 “(2) GSO DETERMINATION REQUIRED.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—

15 “(i) APPLICATIONS.—Except as pro-
16 vided in clause (ii) and subsection (m),
17 after the date on which the Commission
18 issues a public notice of the acceptance for
19 filing of a written application submitted to
20 the Commission for market access de-
21 scribed in subparagraph (B), the Commis-
22 sion shall determine whether to grant the
23 application, including any amendment to
24 the application.

1 “(ii) MAJOR AMENDMENTS.—If a
2 major amendment (within the meaning of
3 section 25.116 of title 47, Code of Federal
4 Regulations, or any successor regulation)
5 to an application described in clause (i) is
6 submitted to the Commission, the Commis-
7 sion shall determine whether to grant the
8 application, including the major amend-
9 ment and any other amendment to the ap-
10 plication, not later than 1 year after the
11 date on which the Commission issues a
12 public notice of the acceptance for filing of
13 the major amendment.

14 “(B) TYPE OF APPLICATION.—An applica-
15 tion described in this subparagraph is an appli-
16 cation for market access within the United
17 States for covered radiocommunication services
18 using a geostationary orbit space station.

19 “(3) CONTENTS OF APPLICATION.—In addition
20 to the application requirements described in section
21 308(b), an application submitted under paragraph
22 (1) or (2) shall include performance metrics with re-
23 spect to the frequencies and transmission power to
24 be used.

1 “(4) TERM OF INITIAL GRANT OF MARKET AC-
2 CESS.—The Commission shall grant market access
3 for a term not to exceed 15 years for any application
4 granted under this subsection.

5 “(e) EARTH STATION AUTHORIZATION.—

6 “(1) DETERMINATION REQUIRED FOR INDIVID-
7 UALLY LICENSED EARTH STATIONS.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—

9 “(i) APPLICATIONS.—Except as pro-
10 vided in clause (ii), paragraph (4), and
11 subsection (m), not later than 180 days
12 after the date on which the Commission
13 issues a public notice of the acceptance for
14 filing of a written application submitted to
15 the Commission for authorization described
16 in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the
17 Commission shall determine whether to
18 grant the application, including any
19 amendment to the application.

20 “(ii) MAJOR AMENDMENTS.—If a
21 major amendment (within the meaning of
22 section 25.116 of title 47, Code of Federal
23 Regulations, or any successor regulation)
24 to an application described in clause (i) is
25 submitted to the Commission, the Commis-

1 sion shall determine whether to grant the
2 application, including the major amend-
3 ment and any other amendment to the ap-
4 plication, not later than 1 year after the
5 date on which the Commission issues a
6 public notice of the acceptance for filing of
7 the major amendment.

8 “(B) TYPE OF APPLICATION.—An applica-
9 tion described in this subparagraph is an appli-
10 cation for authorization to use an individually
11 licensed earth station.

12 “(2) DETERMINATION REQUIRED FOR RECEIVE-
13 ONLY EARTH STATIONS.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—

15 “(i) APPLICATIONS.—Except as pro-
16 vided in clause (ii), paragraph (3), and
17 subsection (m), not later than 30 days
18 after the date on which the Commission
19 issues a public notice of the acceptance for
20 filing of a written application submitted to
21 the Commission for authorization described
22 in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the
23 Commission shall determine whether to
24 grant the application, including any
25 amendment to the application.

1 “(ii) MAJOR AMENDMENTS.—If a
2 major amendment (within the meaning of
3 section 25.116 of title 47, Code of Federal
4 Regulations, or any successor regulation)
5 to an application described in clause (i) is
6 submitted to the Commission, the Commis-
7 sion shall determine whether to grant the
8 application, including the major amend-
9 ment and any other amendment to the ap-
10 plication, not later than 1 year after the
11 date on which the Commission issues a
12 public notice of the acceptance for filing of
13 the major amendment.

14 “(B) TYPES OF APPLICATION.—An appli-
15 cation described in this subparagraph is an ap-
16 plication for authorization to use an earth sta-
17 tion or earth stations to receive a signal from—

18 “(i) a nongeostationary orbit space
19 station operated under a license granted
20 under subsection (c)(1) or a grant of mar-
21 ket access granted under subsection (d)(1);
22 or

23 “(ii) a geostationary orbit space sta-
24 tion operated under a license granted

1 under subsection (c)(2) or a grant of mar-
2 ket access granted under subsection (d)(2).

3 “(3) EXCEPTION.—The deadline for the deter-
4 mination required under paragraph (1) or (2) may
5 be extended by the Commission for an application
6 subject to review under subsection (n).

7 “(4) INAPPLICABILITY TO BLANKET-LICENSED
8 EARTH STATIONS.—This subsection does not apply
9 with respect to an earth station or earth stations to
10 the extent that the earth station or earth stations
11 will be blanket-licensed with a space station, as de-
12 scribed in subsection (c)(1)(B)(ii), (c)(1)(C)(iii),
13 (c)(2)(B)(ii), (c)(2)(C)(iii), (d)(1)(B)(ii), or
14 (d)(1)(C)(iii).

15 “(f) RENEWAL OF LICENSE, GRANT OF MARKET AC-
16 CESS, OR AUTHORIZATION.—Except as provided in sub-
17 section (m), not later than 180 days after the date on
18 which the Commission receives a request for renewal of
19 a license granted under subsection (c), a grant of market
20 access granted under subsection (d), or an authorization
21 granted under subsection (e) from the licensee, grantee,
22 or entity with such authorization, as applicable—

23 “(1) if the Commission determines the require-
24 ments under section 309(k) have been met, the
25 Commission shall grant the request, including any

1 amendment to the request, and renew the license,
 2 grant of market access, or authorization for a term
 3 not to exceed the length of the initial term beginning
 4 the day after the date on which the preceding term
 5 of the license, grant of market access, or authoriza-
 6 tion expires; or

7 “(2) the Commission shall make the determina-
 8 tion described in section 309(k)(3) and deny the re-
 9 quest, including any amendment to the request.

10 “(g) MODIFICATION OF LICENSE OR GRANT OF MAR-
 11 KET ACCESS.—

12 “(1) MAJOR MODIFICATIONS.—

13 “(A) NGSO LICENSE MAJOR MODIFICA-
 14 TIONS.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2),
 15 (3), and (4) of this subsection and in subsection
 16 (m), and not later than 1 year after the date
 17 on which the Commission receives a request to
 18 modify a license granted under subsection
 19 (c)(1), the Commission shall grant or deny the
 20 request (including any amendment to the re-
 21 quest).

22 “(B) GSO LICENSE AND GRANT OF MAR-
 23 KET ACCESS MAJOR MODIFICATIONS.—Except
 24 as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of
 25 this subsection, the Commission may grant a

1 request (including any amendment to the re-
2 quest) to modify a license granted under sub-
3 section (c)(2) or a grant of market access
4 granted under subsection (d).

5 “(2) EXPEDITED TREATMENT FOR MINOR
6 MODIFICATIONS.—

7 “(A) NGSO LICENSE MODIFICATIONS.—
8 Except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4)
9 of this subsection and in subsections (h) and
10 (m), and not later than 90 days after the date
11 on which the Commission receives a request to
12 modify a license granted under subsection
13 (c)(1), the Commission shall grant the request,
14 including any amendment to the request, if the
15 request is limited only to modifications, or a
16 class of modifications, that—

17 “(i) increase transmission capacity;

18 “(ii) improve spectral efficiency, such
19 as by improving compression technologies;
20 or

21 “(iii) otherwise do not substantially
22 modify the space station authorized by the
23 license.

24 “(B) GSO LICENSE MODIFICATIONS.—Ex-
25 cept as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4) of

1 this subsection and in subsections (h) and (m),
 2 and not later than 90 days after the date on
 3 which the Commission receives a request to
 4 modify a license granted under subsection
 5 (c)(2), the Commission shall grant the request,
 6 including any amendment to the request, if the
 7 request is limited only to modifications, or a
 8 class of modifications, that—

9 “(i) increase transmission capacity;

10 “(ii) improve spectral efficiency, such
 11 as by improving compression technologies;

12 or

13 “(iii) otherwise do not substantially
 14 modify the space station authorized by the
 15 license.

16 “(C) EXCLUSION.—This paragraph shall
 17 not apply to a request to modify a license for—

18 “(i) the addition of an ancillary ter-
 19 restrial component; or

20 “(ii) modifying the service offered
 21 under the initial license granted under sub-
 22 section (c) between fixed satellite service
 23 and mobile satellite service.

24 “(3) EXPEDITED TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN
 25 MODIFICATIONS.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30
2 days after the Commission receives a request to
3 modify a license granted under subsection (c),
4 a grant of market access granted under sub-
5 section (d), an authorization granted under sub-
6 section (e), or a covered authorization, in order
7 to conduct a replacement described in subpara-
8 graph (B), the Commission shall grant or deny
9 the request.

10 “(B) REPLACEMENT.—A replacement de-
11 scribed in this subparagraph is a replacement
12 of—

13 “(i) 1 space station, or component of
14 a space station, with a technically similar
15 space station, or component of a space sta-
16 tion, previously approved by the Commis-
17 sion; or

18 “(ii) 1 earth station, or component of
19 an earth station, with a technically similar
20 earth station, or component of an earth
21 station, previously approved by the Com-
22 mission.

23 “(4) EXCEPTIONS.—The Commission may ex-
24 tend the deadlines under paragraphs (1) and (2) for
25 a request subject to review under subsection (n).

1 “(h) EMERGENCY GRANT, RENEWAL, OR MODIFICA-
2 TION.—If the Commission finds that there are extraor-
3 dinary circumstances involving a danger to life or property
4 or an action that is necessary for the national defense or
5 security of the United States, the Commission—

6 “(1) may grant, for a period not to exceed 180
7 days in a manner and upon the terms the Commis-
8 sion shall by rule prescribe—

9 “(A) a license described in subsection (c),
10 a grant of market access described in sub-
11 section (d), or an authorization described in
12 subsection (e);

13 “(B) a renewal of a license, grant of mar-
14 ket access, or authorization described in sub-
15 paragraph (A); or

16 “(C) a modification of a license, grant of
17 market access, or authorization described in
18 subparagraph (A);

19 “(2) shall include with a grant made under this
20 subsection a statement of the reasons of the Com-
21 mission for making the grant;

22 “(3) may extend a grant made under this sub-
23 section for a period not to exceed 180 days; and

24 “(4) shall give expeditious treatment to any—

1 “(A) timely filed petition to deny a grant
2 under this subsection; or

3 “(B) timely filed petition for rehearing of
4 a grant made under this subsection that is filed
5 under section 405.

6 “(i) STATE PREEMPTION OF MARKET ENTRY;
7 RATES.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
9 provision of law, a State or local government may
10 not regulate the rates charged by—

11 “(A) an applicant or licensee with respect
12 to a license granted under subsection (b);

13 “(B) an applicant or grantee with respect
14 to a grant of market access granted under sub-
15 section (c); or

16 “(C) an applicant or entity with respect to
17 an authorization granted under subsection (d).

18 “(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not pro-
19 hibit a State or local government from adopting fair
20 and reasonable regulations governing the other
21 terms and conditions of a licensee, grantee, or enti-
22 ty, including regulations to protect aesthetic and
23 safety interests, provided such regulations do not
24 prohibit or have the effect of prohibiting market
25 entry or the provision of service.

1 “(j) REGULATORY RESTRAINT.—

2 “(1) LIMITATION ON INFORMATION REQUIRED
3 TO BE PROVIDED.—In performing any act, issuing
4 any rule or regulation, or issuing any order nec-
5 essary to carry out this section, the Commission—

6 “(A) shall limit the information required to
7 be furnished to the Commission to that which
8 is strictly necessary; and

9 “(B) with respect to an application filed
10 under subsection (c), (d), or (e), a request for
11 renewal made under subsection (f), or a request
12 for modification made under subsection (g)—

13 “(i) may not require the filing of any
14 information that previously has been fur-
15 nished to the Commission or that is not di-
16 rectly material to the considerations that
17 affect the granting or denial of such appli-
18 cation or request; and

19 “(ii) may require information about
20 new or additional facts that the Commis-
21 sion determines necessary to make its find-
22 ings.

23 “(2) DEADLINE FOR PETITION DETERMINA-
24 TION.—If an applicant for a license or a licensee
25 under subsection (c) files a petition under part 1 of

1 title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any suc-
 2 cessor regulation, relating to information required to
 3 be furnished to the Commission under this section,
 4 the Commission shall grant or deny the petition not
 5 later than 90 days after the date on which the peti-
 6 tion is filed.

7 “(k) RELATION TO EXPERIMENTAL AND AMATEUR
 8 USES.—This section shall not apply to any Commission
 9 authorization in—

10 “(1) the experimental radio service; or

11 “(2) the amateur radio service.

12 “(l) COMPLETENESS.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days
 14 after receiving a written application submitted under
 15 subsection (c), (d), or (e), the Commission shall—

16 “(A) determine whether—

17 “(i) the application contains—

18 “(I) in the case of an application
 19 submitted under subsection (c), all of
 20 the information required to be sub-
 21 mitted with the application under sub-
 22 section (c)(3) and the first sentence of
 23 section 308(b);

24 “(II) in the case of an applica-
 25 tion submitted under subsection (d),

1 all of the information required to be
2 submitted with the application under
3 subsection (d)(3) and the first sen-
4 tence of section 308(b); or

5 “(III) in the case of an applica-
6 tion submitted under subsection (e),
7 all of the information required to be
8 submitted with the application under
9 the first sentence of section 308(b);
10 and

11 “(ii) the applicant has paid the fee, if
12 any, required under section 8 in connection
13 with the application; and

14 “(B)(i) if both determinations under sub-
15 paragraph (A) are in the affirmative, issue a
16 public notice of the acceptance for filing of the
17 application; or

18 “(ii) if either determination under sub-
19 paragraph (A) is in the negative, provide notice
20 to the applicant of the negative determination,
21 including the information required to be sub-
22 mitted that was not submitted, the amount of
23 the application fee due, or both, as applicable.

24 “(2) INACTION BY COMMISSION.—If the Com-
25 mission does not comply with paragraph (1) with re-

1 spect to an application by the deadline specified in
2 that paragraph, the Commission shall be deemed for
3 purposes of subsection (c), (d), or (e), as applicable,
4 to have issued a public notice of the acceptance for
5 filing of the application on the date that is 30 days
6 after the date on which the application was received.

7 “(m) TOLLING.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in sub-
9 sections (c)(5), (e)(4), and (g)(4), with respect to an
10 application for a license under subsection (c) or an
11 authorization under subsection (e), or a request for
12 renewal under subsection (f) or modification under
13 subsection (g) of a license granted under subsection
14 (c), a grant of market access granted under sub-
15 section (d), or an authorization granted under sub-
16 section (e), the Commission may extend the deadline
17 under subsection (c), (e), (f), or (g), as applicable,
18 for consideration of the application or request only
19 if—

20 “(A)(i) the Commission finds that there
21 are extraordinary circumstances involving a
22 danger to life or property or an action that is
23 necessary for the national defense or security of
24 the United States requiring additional time for
25 consideration of the application or request; or

1 “(ii) a lapse in appropriations occurs with
2 respect to the Commission granting such appli-
3 cations; and

4 “(B) the Commission publishes and
5 submits to the Committee on Commerce,
6 Science, and Transportation of the Senate
7 and the Committee on Energy and Com-
8 merce of the House of Representatives a
9 notice of the finding described in subpara-
10 graph (A) that states—

11 “(i) the reasons of the Commis-
12 sion for the extension; and

13 “(ii) the length of the period of
14 the extension.

15 “(2) LENGTH.—The Commission may not grant
16 an extension of a deadline under paragraph (1) for
17 a period that exceeds 90 days or, in the case of a
18 lapse in appropriations described in paragraph
19 (1)(A)(ii), the duration of the lapse in appropria-
20 tions.

21 “(3) LIMIT ON EXTENSIONS.—The Commission
22 may grant not more than 2 extensions of a deadline
23 under paragraph (1).

24 “(n) REVIEW FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AND LAW
25 ENFORCEMENT CONCERNS.—

1 “(1) REVIEW REQUIRED FOR ENTITIES WITH
2 REPORTABLE FOREIGN OWNERSHIP.—In the case of
3 an application under subsection (c), (d), or (e), a re-
4 quest for modification under subsection (g), or a re-
5 quest for modification of a covered authorization,
6 that is submitted by an entity that the Commission
7 determines to have reportable foreign ownership, the
8 Commission shall refer the application or request to
9 the Committee for the Assessment of Foreign Par-
10 ticipation in the United States Telecommunications
11 Services Sector established by Executive Order
12 13913 (85 Fed. Reg. 19643; relating to the estab-
13 lishment of the Committee for the Assessment of
14 Foreign Participation in the United States Tele-
15 communications Services Sector) (in this subsection
16 referred to as the ‘Committee’) for review of na-
17 tional security and law enforcement concerns that
18 may be raised by the application or request.

19 “(2) REVIEW AT DISCRETION OF COMMIS-
20 SION.—In addition to the applications and requests
21 that the Commission is required to refer to the Com-
22 mittee under paragraph (1), the Commission may, in
23 the discretion of the Commission, refer any other ap-
24 plication under subsection (c), (d), or (e), request
25 for modification under subsection (g), or request for

1 modification of a covered authorization to the Com-
2 mittee for review of national security and law en-
3 forcement concerns that may be raised by the appli-
4 cation or request.

5 “(o) SPECTRUM PROTECTION PLAN UPDATES.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 20,
7 2028, and biennially thereafter, the Commission
8 shall review and update the regulations of the Com-
9 mission that relate to spectrum sharing for non-geo-
10 stationary orbit and fixed-satellite service.

11 “(2) EXCEPTION.—If the Commission deter-
12 mines that no update under paragraph (1) is re-
13 quired, the Commission shall submit to Congress a
14 notice that provides justification for the determina-
15 tion.

16 “(p) ALLEVIATION OF DELAYS FOR CERTAIN APPLI-
17 CATIONS.—

18 “(1) ADDITION OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED
19 SPACE STATIONS.—The Commission shall permit
20 non-geostationary orbit operators to add an author-
21 ized space station as a point of communication to an
22 authorized ground station on a notification-only
23 basis without filing an application for modification
24 under subsection (g) if the addition of the author-

1 ized space station involves no other changes to the
2 authorized parameters of the ground stations.

3 “(2) EXTENSION OF SPECIAL TEMPORARY AU-
4 THORITY.—The Commission may extend a 60-day
5 Special Temporary Authority granted under 47
6 C.F.R. 25.120(b)(3), the request for which was filed
7 alongside an application for regular nonbroadcast
8 operation, on its own motion and without placing the
9 request for Special Temporary Authority on public
10 notice during the time that the application remains
11 pending.

12 “(q) DEEMED GRANTED.—If the Commission fails to
13 grant or deny an application or request, including any
14 amendment to an application or request, submitted under
15 subsection (c)(1), (c)(2), (e)(1), (e)(2), (g)(1), or (g)(2)
16 by the deadline for the determination required by such
17 subsection, the application or request, including an
18 amendment to an application or request, shall be deemed
19 granted on the date on which the Commission receives
20 from the applicant or requestor written notice of the fail-
21 ure to grant or deny the application or request by the ap-
22 plicable deadline.”.

23 (b) RELATION TO OTHER LAW AMENDMENTS.—Sec-
24 tion 309 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C.
25 309) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (j)(2)—

2 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “;
3 or” and inserting a semicolon;

4 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
5 subparagraph (D); and

6 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
7 the following:

8 “(C) for licenses, grants of market access,
9 or authorizations granted under section 346;
10 or”; and

11 (2) in subsection (k)—

12 (A) in the heading, by striking “BROAD-
13 CAST STATION RENEWAL PROCEDURES” and
14 inserting “RENEWAL PROCEDURES FOR CER-
15 TAIN AUTHORIZATIONS”;

16 (B) in paragraph (1)—

17 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
18 graph (A)—

19 (I) by inserting “, the holder of
20 a license granted under section
21 346(c), the recipient of a grant of
22 market access granted under section
23 346(d), or an entity with authoriza-
24 tion granted under section 346(e),”
25 after “broadcast station”;

1 (II) by inserting “, grant, or au-
2 thorization” after “such license”;

3 (III) by striking “that station”
4 and inserting “that licensee, recipient,
5 or entity”; and

6 (IV) by inserting “, grant of
7 market access, or authorization” after
8 “its license”;

9 (ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking
10 “the station” and inserting “in the case of
11 a broadcast station, the station”;

12 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting
13 “, recipient, or entity” after “licensee”;
14 and

15 (iv) in subparagraph (C), by inserting
16 “, recipient, or entity” after “licensee”;

17 (C) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, or the
18 holder of a license granted under section
19 346(d), the recipient of a grant of market ac-
20 cess granted under section 346(d), or an entity
21 with authorization granted under section
22 346(e),” after “broadcast station”;

23 (D) in paragraph (3)—

24 (i) in the matter preceding subpara-
25 graph (A), by inserting “of a broadcast

1 station, a holder of a license granted under
 2 section 346(e), a recipient of a grant of
 3 market access granted under section
 4 346(d), or an entity with authorization
 5 granted under section 346(e)” after “that
 6 a licensee”;

7 (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

8 (I) by inserting “, recipient, or
 9 entity” after “licensee”; and

10 (II) by inserting “or 346” after
 11 “section 308”; and

12 (iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking
 13 “former licensee” and inserting “former li-
 14 censee of a broadcast station or such appli-
 15 cations for a license, grant of market ac-
 16 cess, or authorization as may be filed
 17 under section 346(c), 346(d), or 346(e)
 18 specifying the information of the former li-
 19 censee, recipient, or entity”; and

20 (E) in paragraph (4), by inserting “, grant
 21 of market access, or grant of an authorization”
 22 after “license”.

23 (c) APPLICABILITY.—The requirements in the
 24 amendments made by this section shall apply with respect
 25 to any application submitted under subsection (c), (d), or

1 (e) of section 346 of the Communications Act of 1934,
2 as added by subsection (a), and any request for renewal
3 or modification submitted under such section, on or after
4 the date of enactment of this Act.

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