

Washington Watch



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FCC issues tentative agenda for April open meeting

The FCC issued a tentative <u>agenda</u> for its April 25, 2024 open meeting. The FCC will consider a <u>declaratory ruling</u>, <u>order</u>, <u>report and order</u>, <u>and order on reconsideration</u> to: classify broadband internet access service as a telecommunications service and mobile broadband internet access service as a commercial mobile service; reinstate straightforward, clear rules that prohibit blocking, throttling or engaging in paid or affiliated prioritization arrangements; and adopt certain enhancements to the transparency rule. The order on reconsideration will partially grant and otherwise dismiss as moot several petitions for reconsideration filed in response to the RIF remand order. The FCC will also consider: a <u>second further notice of proposed rulemaking</u> requiring implementation of one or more georouting solutions for wireless calls to the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline to ensure calls are routed based on the geographic location for the origin of the call, rather than the area code and exchange associated with a wireless phone; and seven enforcement bureau actions.

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Broadband

Eighth Circuit sets briefing schedule, schedules oral argument in digital discrimination order review

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit issued an <u>order</u> on April 2, 2024, setting the briefing schedule and tentatively scheduling oral argument in the case that will hear 16 petitions for review of the November 2023 <u>report and order</u> on preventing and eliminating digital discrimination. Oral argument is tentatively scheduled for either Sept. 25 or 26, 2024.

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Open internet

CTIA discusses proposal to reclassify broadband as Title II

CTIA <u>spoke with</u> Commissioner Gomez's advisors on April 1, 2024, regarding the proposal to reclassify broadband as Title II. CTIA said if the FCC does reimpose Title II and open

internet rules, it should: maintain its longstanding, technology-neutral definition of BIAS; reinstate the same approach to non-BIAS data services it adopted in 2010 and 2015; and refrain from unnecessary heightened rules or guidance for non-BIAS data services. Additionally, CTIA said proposals to narrow or restrict non-BIAS data services would deny the benefits of new technology such as network slicing to broadband users.

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Robocalls

FCC issues cease and desist letter to Veriwave Telco

The Enforcement Bureau sent a cease and desist <u>letter</u> to Veriwave Telco on April 4, 2024, asserting it apparently originated illegal robocall traffic on behalf of one or more of its clients. The bureau provided legal obligations and steps Veriwave must take to address the apparent illegal traffic and stated failure to comply with the steps in the letter may result in downstream voice service providers blocking all its traffic permanently. Additionally, the bureau issued a <u>public notice</u> on April 4, 2024, to notify all U.S.-based voice providers about significant and apparently unlawful robocalls originating from or transmitted by Veriwave. The bureau said if Veriwave fails to effectively mitigate illegal traffic within 48 hours of the date of this public notice, providers may block voice calls or cease to accept traffic from Veriwave without liability. newsrelease Return to top

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