

**S. 2955, “The Mobile Accuracy and Precision Broadband or MAP Broadband Act”**  
**Senators Wicker (R-MS), Hassan (D-NH), and Moran (R-KS)**

***What is the Mobility Fund?***

- The Mobility Fund is a program within the FCC’s Universal Service Fund that provides monetary support for the deployment of mobile broadband service in the United States. Phase II of the Mobility Fund (MF II) is a phase of the program that will provide \$4.53 billion over 10 years to preserve and expand 4G LTE mobile voice and broadband coverage to primarily rural areas.

***What is the problem?***

- In February, the FCC released a map showing presumptive eligible areas across the United States for MF II support.
- The map was developed based on a preliminary assessment from a one-time data collection effort.
- The data was submitted by wireless providers that projected where 4G LTE service was available according to parameters established by the FCC.
- Unfortunately, the map may misrepresent the existence of 4G LTE service in many areas based on on-the-ground experience.
- To address potential inaccuracies in the map, the FCC established a challenge process for eligible entities, including state, local, and tribal governments, as well as wireless providers, to challenge and verify the FCC’s initial assessment.
- The timeframe for the challenge process however may not provide enough time for entities lacking sufficient personnel and resources to correct significant flaws in the current map.

***Why is this legislation needed?***

- This legislation is needed to ensure that all eligible entities have the requisite time and opportunity to participate in the challenge process.
- This legislation is also needed to reduce the cost burden on challengers lacking sufficient personnel and resources to travel throughout their respective states to collect data required to submit a challenge to the FCC.
- Additionally, this legislation is needed to correct flaws in the FCC’s map assessing the projected availability of 4G LTE service across the country.
- Finally, this legislation is needed to ensure that MF II support is targeted to unserved communities that do not have access to reliable mobile broadband service.

***What would this bill do?***

- This bill requires the FCC to:
  - Extend the challenge process window by 90 days to ensure that challengers with limited resources and personnel have enough time to challenge the map;
  - Disclose the eligible handsets (i.e. phones) that each mobile wireless service provider has approved for challengers to use in the challenge process;
  - Provide monthly updates on the number of entities that the Commission has approved to participate in the challenge process as challengers, and the percentage of the total geographic areas initially determined to be ineligible for MF II support that have been challenged under the challenge process; and
  - Provide annual updates on the expansion of mobile wireless service through the MF II program.