

2017 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 114

BY SENATOR APPEL

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

INTERNET. Provides for free broadband Internet at public airports. (8/1/17)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 45:844.45.1, relative to advanced service; to provide advanced services in

3 public airports; to provide for terms and conditions; and to provide for related

4 matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 45:844.45.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 **§844.45.1. Advanced service; airports**

8 **Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, nothing in this**

9 **Chapter shall restrict any public airport from providing access to free**

10 **broadband Internet, as defined by the Federal Communications Commission,**

11 **solely to the patrons of the airport.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Ridge.

DIGEST

SB 114 Engrossed 2017 Regular Session Appel

Present law provides relative to the Local Government Fair Competition Act.

Present law provides for definitions and defines "covered services" as telecommunications services, advanced services, and cable television services, individually and collectively, and

regardless of the technology used to provide those services. Defines "advanced service" as high-speed Internet access capability in excess of 144 kilobits per second both upstream and downstream.

Present law allows a local government to provide covered services to one or more subscribers and to purchase, lease, construct, maintain, or operate a facility for the purpose of providing covered services provided that before engaging or offering covered services the local government holds a public hearing, conducts a feasibility study, and calls an election for authorization to issue bonds to finance the provisions of covered services.

Proposed law provides that notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, nothing in present law shall restrict any public airport from providing access to free broadband Internet, as defined by the Federal Communication Commission, solely to the patrons of the airport.

Effective August 1, 2017.

(Adds R.S. 45:844.45.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to the original bill

1. Removes proposed law exception for a local government that owns a public airport to provide advanced services to the public airport and to purchase, lease, construct, maintain, or operate any facility for the purpose of providing such services at the public airport.
2. Provides that nothing in law shall restrict any public airport from providing access to free broadband Internet to the patrons of the airport.