

and any ancillary services offered in combination with these services.

(June 19, 1934, ch. 652, title II, §260, as added Pub. L. 104-104, title I, §101(a), Feb. 8, 1996, 110 Stat. 79.)

### § 261. Effect on other requirements

#### (a) Commission regulations

Nothing in this part shall be construed to prohibit the Commission from enforcing regulations prescribed prior to February 8, 1996, in fulfilling the requirements of this part, to the extent that such regulations are not inconsistent with the provisions of this part.

#### (b) Existing State regulations

Nothing in this part shall be construed to prohibit any State commission from enforcing regulations prescribed prior to February 8, 1996, or from prescribing regulations after February 8, 1996, in fulfilling the requirements of this part, if such regulations are not inconsistent with the provisions of this part.

#### (c) Additional State requirements

Nothing in this part precludes a State from imposing requirements on a telecommunications carrier for intrastate services that are necessary to further competition in the provision of telephone exchange service or exchange access, as long as the State's requirements are not inconsistent with this part or the Commission's regulations to implement this part.

(June 19, 1934, ch. 652, title II, §261, as added Pub. L. 104-104, title I, §101(a), Feb. 8, 1996, 110 Stat. 79.)

### § 262. Ensuring the integrity of voice communications

#### (a) Registration and compliance by intermediate providers

An intermediate provider that offers or holds itself out as offering the capability to transmit covered voice communications from one destination to another and that charges any rate to any other entity (including an affiliated entity) for the transmission shall—

- (1) register with the Commission; and
- (2) comply with the service quality standards for such transmission to be established by the Commission under subsection (c)(1)(B).

#### (b) Required use of registered intermediate providers

A covered provider may not use an intermediate provider to transmit covered voice communications unless such intermediate provider is registered under subsection (a)(1).

#### (c) Commission rules

##### (1) In general

##### (A) Registry

Not later than 180 days after February 26, 2018, the Commission shall promulgate rules to establish a registry to record registrations under subsection (a)(1).

##### (B) Service quality standards

Not later than 1 year after February 26, 2018, the Commission shall promulgate rules

to establish service quality standards for the transmission of covered voice communications by intermediate providers.

#### (2) Requirements

In promulgating the rules required by paragraph (1), the Commission shall—

- (A) ensure the integrity of the transmission of covered voice communications to all customers in the United States; and
- (B) prevent unjust or unreasonable discrimination among areas of the United States in the delivery of covered voice communications.

#### (d) Public availability of registry

The Commission shall make the registry established under subsection (c)(1)(A) publicly available on the website of the Commission.

#### (e) Scope of application

The requirements of this section shall apply regardless of the format by which any communication or service is provided, the protocol or format by which the transmission of such communication or service is achieved, or the regulatory classification of such communication or service.

#### (f) Rule of construction

Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the regulatory classification of any communication or service.

#### (g) Effect on other laws

Nothing in this section shall be construed to preempt or expand the authority of a State public utility commission or other relevant State agency to collect data, or investigate and enforce State law and regulations, regarding the completion of intrastate voice communications, regardless of the format by which any communication or service is provided, the protocol or format by which the transmission of such communication or service is achieved, or the regulatory classification of such communication or service.

#### (h) Exception

The requirement under subsection (a)(2) to comply with the service quality standards established under subsection (c)(1)(B) shall not apply to a covered provider that—

- (1) on or before the date that is 1 year after February 26, 2018, has certified as a Safe Harbor provider under section 64.2107(a) of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation; and
- (2) continues to meet the requirements under such section 64.2107(a).

#### (i) Definitions

In this section:

##### (1) Covered provider

The term “covered provider” has the meaning given the term in section 64.2101 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto.

##### (2) Covered voice communication

The term “covered voice communication” means a voice communication (including any related signaling information) that is generated—