

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 251

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit manipulation of caller identification information, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2007

Mr. ENGEL (for himself and Mr. BARTON of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit manipulation of caller identification information, 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 “Truth in Caller ID  
5 Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION REGARDING MANIPULATION OF**  
7 **CALLER IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION.**

8 Section 227 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47  
9 U.S.C. 227) is amended—

1           (1) by redesignating subsections (e), (f), and  
2           (g) as subsections (f), (g), and (h), respectively; and

3           (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-  
4           lowing new subsection:

5           “(e) PROHIBITION ON PROVISION OF DECEPTIVE  
6 CALLER IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION.—

7           “(1) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for any  
8           person within the United States, in connection with  
9           any telecommunications service or VOIP service, to  
10          cause any caller identification service to transmit  
11          misleading or inaccurate caller identification infor-  
12          mation, with the intent to defraud or cause harm.

13          “(2) PROTECTION FOR BLOCKING CALLER  
14          IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION.—Nothing in this  
15          subsection may be construed to prevent or restrict  
16          any person from blocking the capability of any caller  
17          identification service to transmit caller identification  
18          information.

19          “(3) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 6 months  
20          after the enactment of this subsection, the Commis-  
21          sion shall prescribe regulations to implement this  
22          subsection.

23          “(4) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this sub-  
24          section:

1           “(A) CALLER IDENTIFICATION INFORMA-  
2           TION.—The term ‘caller identification informa-  
3           tion’ means information provided to an end  
4           user by a caller identification service regarding  
5           the telephone number of, or other information  
6           regarding the origination of, a call made using  
7           a telecommunications service or VOIP service.

8           “(B) CALLER IDENTIFICATION SERVICE.—  
9           The term ‘caller identification service’ means  
10          any service or device designed to provide the  
11          user of the service or device with the telephone  
12          number of, or other information regarding the  
13          origination of, a call made using a telecommuni-  
14          cations service or VOIP service. Such term in-  
15          cludes automatic number identification services.

16          “(C) VOIP SERVICE.—The term ‘VOIP  
17          service’ means a service that—

18                 “(i) provides real-time voice commu-  
19                 nications transmitted through end user  
20                 equipment using TCP/IP protocol, or a  
21                 successor protocol, for a fee or without a  
22                 fee;

23                 “(ii) is offered to the public, or such  
24                 classes of users as to be effectively avail-

1           able to the public (whether part of a bun-  
2           dle of services or separately); and

3                   “(iii) has the capability to originate  
4           traffic to, and terminate traffic from, the  
5           public switched telephone network.

6                   “(5) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this Act  
7           may be construed to affect or alter the application  
8           of the Commission’s regulations regarding the re-  
9           quirements for transmission of caller identification  
10          information for telemarketing calls, issued pursuant  
11          to the Telephone Consumer Protection Act of 1991  
12          (Public Law 102–243) and the amendments made  
13          by such Act.”.

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