AN ACT

Prohibiting termination of cable and Internet service during a disaster emergency.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the Emergency Cable and Internet Service Act.

Section 2. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this act shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Cable service provider." A person that provides cable television services, video programming services or any other distribution of television or video services.

"Disaster emergency." A disaster emergency declared by the Governor under 35 Pa.C.S. § 7301(c) (relating to general authority of Governor).

"Internet service provider." A person that furnishes a
service that enables users to access content, information, e-mail or other services offered over the Internet and access to proprietary content, information and other services.

Section 3. Prohibition.

(a) Prohibition.--Cable service providers and Internet service providers may not terminate service in this Commonwealth during the pendency of a disaster emergency.

(b) Payment.--The prohibition under subsection (a) shall not be construed to relieve the recipient of cable or internet service of the obligation to pay for those services once a disaster emergency is terminated or expires under 35 Pa.C.S. section 7301(c) (relating to general authority of Governor).

Section 4. Effective date.

This act shall take effect immediately.