



August 30, 2021

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Government Technology

Rhode Island Looks to Solidify Net Neutrality Requirements

Currently, in Rhode Island, an [executive order](#) passed by the state's previous [Gov. Gina Raimondo](#) requires Internet service providers to comply with neutrality requirements when entering into certain public procurement contracts. The concern regarding this executive order, according to one state senator, is that it can be changed at any time by a new chief executive. This prompted lawmakers to propose a bill to make the executive order a permanent law. "This is the fourth year the [bill](#) has been proposed," Sen. Louis DiPalma said. "It was passed previously by the Senate, but not the House." "The executive order mimics language in the bill, which basically says that if you are going to work with the state, you need to follow our net neutrality principles," DiPalma said.

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Wall Street Journal T-Mobile CEO Apologizes for Data-Security Breach

The chief executive of T-Mobile US Inc. apologized to customers for [a security breach](#) that has exposed personal data from more than 50 million people and said the wireless company was working to strengthen its cyber defenses. The Bellevue, Wash., company on Friday said it struck long-term partnerships with cybersecurity firm Mandiant and consulting firm KPMG LLG after the hack of its systems that exposed millions of Social Security numbers, birth dates and other data. “We didn’t live up to the expectations we have for ourselves to protect our customers,” CEO Mike Sievert wrote in a public letter. “Knowing that we failed to prevent this exposure is one of the hardest parts of this event.” John Binns, a 21-year-old American who moved to Turkey a few years ago, told The Wall Street Journal he was behind the security breach. He said [the company’s lax security](#) eased his path into a cache of T-Mobile records. “Their security is awful,” Mr. Binns told the Journal.

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Roll Call Senate’s internet access plan rests on better broadband maps

The Senate’s bipartisan infrastructure bill makes a \$42.5 billion bet that the government will overcome an obstacle that has long plagued efforts to connect most Americans to the internet: notoriously inaccurate maps showing where they can get a signal — and where they can’t. That’s the amount of grant funding that the legislation, which the Senate passed earlier this month on a 69-30 vote, would provide to states to fund broadband projects in areas currently considered unserved or underserved. To qualify, proposals would have to comply with new broadband maps drawn by the Federal Communications Commission. There’s one catch: The new maps don’t exist yet. And they may not be ready to go for one or two years, experts say. Though the consensus is that the new maps will be an improvement over the status quo, states and private-sector companies are moving forward with their own solutions.

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Pennlive Pa. Sen. Cris Dush talks about election review, his doubts of the vote count and how Donald Trump ‘is watching’

The Republican senator tapped to take over an “Arizona-style” audit of Pennsylvania’s 2020 presidential election says there’s potential for his investigation to expand across the state.

Sen. Cris Dush of Jefferson County indicated he doesn't feel compelled to limit it to York, Tioga and Philadelphia counties. Those are the counties Sen. Doug Mastriano, R-Franklin County, had targeted when he began his election review.

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Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Editorial: Facebook, more than mere dominance

Adopting the stance of try, try again, the Federal Trade Commission is going after Facebook as a monopoly that illegally smothers competition. Despite an earlier court ruling to the contrary, the FTC has filed litigation echoing arguments that have been heard before: Facebook is in violation of federal anti-trust rules. The behemoth social media platform has grown even bigger over time with its acquisition of Instagram and WhatsApp, teasing regulators with its size, its command, its influence. Evidence abounds that the social network should be broken up. The government contends — and, on its face, it would seem understandable — that Facebook's waning popularity amidst other competitors more compatible for mobile devices prompted Facebook to acquire the more mobile-appropriate competition.

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**Broadband Cable Association
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