



HB 841 / SB 513: Freedom from Modem and Router Rental Fees Act

You have doubtless heard of **modems and routers**. A modem is a small box that connects your home network to the Internet, and a router allows all of your wireless devices access to that Internet connection.

These components are essential to connect households to Internet and Wi-Fi. Most consumers rent this equipment from their Internet service provider.

Some Internet service providers, such as Comcast and MediaCom, allow customers to supply their own modem and forgo the rental fee of \$13 per month and \$11.50 per month, respectively.

Other companies, like AT&T and Frontier, do *not* allow customers to supply their own modem. These companies **require consumers to endlessly rent the equipment** until the customer ends their service with the provider. Meaning, even though a modem and router combo costs the companies less than \$100, the companies continue to charge the customer long after the equipment is paid off.

After renting a modem and router for 10 years, a consumer will have paid the Internet provider **\$1,560 for equipment that costs less than \$100** (12 months a year x 10 years x \$13 monthly rental fee).

House Bill 841/Senate Bill 513 would put an end to these ridiculous and endless modem and router fees. It would stop rental fees once the equipment is paid off.

In some cases, the companies don't advertise the fact that you can supply your



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own equipment, and customers may think they're stuck paying the endless rental fees.

Modems and routers are necessary in today's increasingly connected world, and we shouldn't let companies get away with not allowing customers an opportunity to buy the equipment.

Please limit the endless equipment rental fees charged by Internet service providers. Support consumer savings and support House Bill 841/Senate Bill 513.