

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
96TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2011**

Introduced by Reps. Horn and Roy Schmidt

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4314

AN ACT to amend 1991 PA 179, entitled “An act to regulate and insure the availability of certain telecommunication services; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state agencies and officials; to prescribe penalties; and to repeal acts and parts of acts,” by amending sections 101, 102, 103, 201, 202, 205, 210, 213, 303, 304, 305, 305a, 305b, 309, 310a, 313, 315, 316, 353a, 401, 502, and 503 (MCL 484.2101, 484.2102, 484.2103, 484.2201, 484.2202, 484.2205, 484.2210, 484.2213, 484.2303, 484.2304, 484.2305, 484.2305a, 484.2305b, 484.2309, 484.2310a, 484.2313, 484.2315, 484.2316, 484.2353a, 484.2401, 484.2502, and 484.2503), sections 101, 102, 103, 201, 202, 205, 210, 213, 303, 304, 305, 309, 315, 316, 401, and 502 as amended and sections 305a, 305b, 310a, and 353a as added by 2005 PA 235 and section 503 as amended by 2000 PA 295, and by adding section 305c; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 101. (1) This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Michigan telecommunications act”.

(2) The purpose of this act is to do all of the following:

(a) Ensure that every person has access to just, reasonable, and affordable basic residential telecommunication service.

(b) Allow and encourage competition to determine the availability, prices, terms, and other conditions of providing telecommunication services.

(c) Encourage the introduction of new services, the entry of new providers, the development of new technologies, and increase investment in the telecommunication infrastructure in this state through incentives to providers to offer the most efficient services and products.

(d) Improve the opportunities for economic development and the delivery of essential services including education and health care.

(e) Encourage the use of existing educational telecommunication networks and networks established by other commercial providers as building blocks for a cooperative and efficient statewide educational telecommunication system.

(f) Ensure effective and timely review and disposition of disputes between telecommunication providers.

(g) Authorize actions to encourage the development of a competitive telecommunication industry.

Sec. 102. As used in this act:

(a) “Access service” means access to a local exchange network for the purpose of enabling a provider to originate or terminate telecommunication services within the local exchange. Except for end-user common line services, access service does not include access service to a person who is not a provider.

(b) “Basic local exchange service” or “local exchange service” means the provision of an access line and usage within a local calling area for the transmission of high-quality 2-way interactive switched voice or data communication.

(c) “Broadband service” means a retail service capable of transmitting data over an access line at a rate greater than 200 kilobits per second.

(d) “Cable service” means 1-way transmission to subscribers of video programming or other programming services and subscriber interaction for the selection of video programming or other programming services.

(e) “Commission” means the Michigan public service commission.

(f) “Contested case” or “case” means a proceeding as defined in section 3 of the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.203.

(g) “Educational institution” means a public educational institution or a private non-profit educational institution approved by the department of education to provide a program of primary, secondary, or higher education, a public library, or a nonprofit association or consortium whose primary purpose is education. A nonprofit association or consortium under this subdivision shall consist of 2 or more of the following:

(i) Public educational institutions.

(ii) Nonprofit educational institutions approved by the department of education.

(iii) The state board of education.

(iv) Telecommunication providers.

(v) A nonprofit association of educational institutions or consortium of educational institutions.

(h) “End user” means the retail subscriber of a telecommunication service.

(i) “Energy management services” means a service of a public utility providing electric power, heat, or light for energy use management, energy use control, energy use information, and energy use communication.

(j) “Exchange” means 1 or more contiguous central offices and all associated facilities within a geographical area in which basic local exchange service is offered by a provider.

(k) “Information services” or “enhanced services” means the offering of a capability for generating, acquiring, storing, transforming, processing, retrieving, utilizing, or making available information, including energy management services, that is conveyed by telecommunications. Information services or enhanced services do not include the use of that capability for the management, control, or operation of a telecommunications system or the management of a telecommunications service.

(l) “Interconnection” means the technical arrangements and other elements necessary to permit the connection between the switched networks of 2 or more providers to enable a telecommunication service originating on the network of 1 provider to terminate on the network of another provider.

(m) “License” means a license issued under this act.

(n) “Line” or “access line” means the medium over which a telecommunication user connects into the local exchange.

(o) “Local calling area” means a geographic area encompassing 1 or more local communities as described in maps, tariffs, or rate schedules filed with and approved by the commission.

(p) “Local directory assistance” means the provision by telephone of a listed telephone number within the caller’s area code.

(q) “Local exchange rate” means the monthly and usage rate, including all necessary and attendant charges, imposed for basic local exchange service to customers.

(r) “Loop” means the transmission facility between the network interface on a subscriber’s premises and the main distribution frame in the servicing central office.

(s) “Operator service” means a telecommunication service that includes automatic or live assistance to a person to arrange for completion and billing of a telephone call originating within this state that is specified by the caller through a method other than 1 of the following:

(i) Automatic completion with billing to the telephone from which the call originated.

(ii) Completion through an access code or a proprietary account number used by the person, with billing to an account previously established with the provider by the person.

(iii) Completion in association with directory assistance services.

(t) “Operator service provider” or “OSP” means a provider of operator service.

(u) “Payphone service” means a telephone call provided from a public, semipublic, or individually owned and operated telephone that is available to the public and is accessed by the depositing of coin or currency or by other means of payment at the time the call is made.

(v) “Person” means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, governmental entity, or any other legal entity.

(w) “Person with disabilities” means an individual who has 1 or more of the following physical characteristics:

(i) Blindness.

(ii) Inability to ambulate more than 200 feet without having to stop and rest during any time of the year.

(iii) Loss of use of 1 or both legs or feet.

(iv) Inability to ambulate without the prolonged use of a wheelchair, walker, crutches, braces, or other device required to aid mobility.

(v) A lung disease from which the individual's expiratory volume for 1 second, when measured by spirometry, is less than 1 liter, or from which the individual's arterial oxygen tension is less than 60 mm/hg of room air at rest.

(vi) A cardiovascular disease from which the individual measures between 3 and 4 on the New York heart classification scale, or from which a marked limitation of physical activity causes fatigue, palpitation, dyspnea, or anginal pain.

(vii) Other diagnosed disease or disorder including, but not limited to, severe arthritis or a neurological or orthopedic impairment that creates a severe mobility limitation.

(x) "Port", except for the loop, means the entirety of local exchange, including dial tone, a telephone number, switching software, local calling, and access to directory assistance, a white pages listing, operator services, and interexchange and intra-LATA toll carriers.

(y) "Public safety system" means a communication system operated by a public entity to provide emergency police, fire, medical, and other first responder services. Public safety system includes the Michigan state police communication system.

(z) "Reasonable rate" or "just and reasonable rate" means a rate that is not inadequate, excessive, or unreasonably discriminatory.

(aa) "Residential customer" means a person to whom telecommunication services are furnished predominantly for personal or domestic purposes at the person's dwelling.

(bb) "Special access" means the provision of access service, other than switched access service, to a local exchange network for the purpose of enabling a provider to originate or terminate telecommunication service within the exchange, including the use of local private lines.

(cc) "State institution of higher education" means an institution of higher education described in sections 4, 5, and 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.

(dd) "Telecommunications act of 1996" means Public Law 104-104.

(ee) "Telecommunication provider" or "provider" means a person that for compensation provides 1 or more telecommunication services. Telecommunication provider does not include a provider of commercial mobile service as defined in section 332(d)(1) of the telecommunications act of 1996, 47 USC 332.

(ff) "Telecommunication services" or "services" includes regulated and unregulated services offered to customers for the transmission of 2-way interactive communication and associated usage. A telecommunication service is not a public utility service.

(gg) "Toll service" means the transmission of 2-way interactive switched communication between local calling areas. Toll service does not include individually negotiated contracts for similar telecommunication services or wide area telecommunications service.

(hh) "Total service long run incremental cost" means, given current service demand, including associated costs of every component necessary to provide the service, 1 of the following:

(i) The total forward-looking cost of a telecommunication service, relevant group of services, or basic network component, using current least cost technology that would be required if the provider had never offered the service.

(ii) The total cost that the provider would incur if the provider were to initially offer the service, group of services, or basic network component.

(ii) "Wide area telecommunications service" or "WATS" means the transmission of 2-way interactive switched communication over a dedicated access line.

Sec. 103. (1) Except as otherwise provided in this act, this act shall not be construed to prevent any person from providing telecommunication services in competition with another telecommunication provider.

(2) The commission shall submit an annual report describing the status of competition in telecommunication services in this state, including, but not limited to, the toll and local exchange service markets in this state. The report required under this section shall be submitted to the governor and the house and senate standing committees with oversight of telecommunication issues.

(3) A provider shall submit to the commission all information requested by the commission necessary for the preparation of the annual report under this section.

(4) Subsections (2) and (3) do not apply after the commission issues its annual report under subsection (2) in 2013.

Sec. 201. (1) Except as otherwise provided by this act or federal law, the commission has the jurisdiction and authority to administer this act and all federal telecommunications laws, rules, orders, and regulations that are delegated to the state, including, but not limited to, the authority to arbitrate and enforce interconnection agreements and to establish rates in accordance with the standards set forth by applicable law.

(2) The commission shall exercise its jurisdiction and authority consistent with this act and all federal telecommunications laws, rules, orders, and regulations.

Sec. 202. (1) In addition to the other powers and duties prescribed by this act, the commission shall do all of the following:

(a) Establish by order the manner and form in which telecommunication providers of regulated services within the state keep accounts, books of accounts, and records in order to determine the total service long-run incremental cost requirements of this act of providing a service. The commission requirements under this subdivision shall be consistent with any regulations covering the same subject matter made by the federal communications commission.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, require by order that a provider of a regulated service, including access service, make available for public inspection and file with the commission a schedule of the provider's rates, services, and conditions of service, including access service provided by contract. Except for access service, a provider is exempt from any commission order requiring that provider to file with the commission its rates, services, and conditions of regulated service if the provider files a certification with the commission opting out of the filing requirement. A certification under this subdivision shall be signed by an officer of the provider.

(c) Promulgate rules under section 213 to establish and enforce quality standards for all of the following:

(i) The provision of basic local exchange service to end users.

(ii) The provision of unbundled network elements and local interconnection services to providers that are used in the provision of basic local exchange service.

(iii) The timely and complete transfer of an end user from 1 provider of basic local exchange service to another provider.

(iv) Providers of basic local exchange service that cease to provide the service to any segment of end users or geographic area, go out of business, or withdraw from the state, including the transfer of customers to other providers and the reclaiming of unused telephone numbers.

(2) Rules promulgated under subsection (1)(c) shall include remedies for the enforcement of the rules that are consistent with this act and federal law. Rules promulgated under subsection (1)(c)(ii) shall not apply to the provision of unbundled network elements and local interconnection services subject to quality standards in an interconnection agreement approved by the commission. In promulgating any rules under subsection (1)(c), the commission shall consider to what extent current market conditions are sufficient to provide adequate service quality to basic local exchange service end users. Any service quality rules promulgated by the commission shall expire within 3 years of the effective date of the rules. The commission may, before the expiration of the rules, promulgate new rules under subsection (1)(c). However, the commission may promulgate new rules under subsection (1)(c)(iii) at any time. Any service quality rules promulgated by the commission under subsection (1)(c)(i) and any retail service quality rules promulgated before January 1, 2006 shall expire on June 30, 2011.

(3) The commission shall permit the electronic filing of any pleadings, tariffs, or any other document required or allowed to be filed with the commission under this act.

Sec. 205. The commission may investigate and resolve complaints under this act. The penalties under this act shall not be imposed for a violation that occurred more than 2 years before the date the complaint was filed.

Sec. 210. (1) Except under the terms of a mandatory protective order, trade secrets and commercial or financial information submitted under this act are exempt from the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231 to 15.246.

(2) If information is disclosed under a mandatory protective order, then the information may be included in the commission's evidentiary record if admissible, but shall remain confidential.

(3) There is a rebuttable presumption that cost studies, customer usage data, marketing studies, and contracts between providers are trade secrets or commercial or financial information protected under subsection (1). The burden of removing the presumption under this subsection is with the party seeking to have the information disclosed.

(4) Information regarding settlement, including a recommended settlement issued by a mediator in a proceeding, shall be disclosed only to the parties to the proceeding unless all parties consent to disclosure. A mediator's recommended settlement may be disclosed to the commission after the commission has issued a final order. The administrative law judge assigned to any contested case proceeding arising from a mediation shall not be made aware of the acceptance or rejection by the parties of the recommended settlement, or the terms of the recommended settlement. The parties to

the mediation shall not disclose or reveal the terms of the recommended settlement to anyone other than the parties to the mediation.

Sec. 213. (1) Subject to section 201 and limited to its specific authority over a service as provided under this act, the commission may promulgate rules under the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(2) A proceeding before the commission to promulgate rules under this act shall be concluded within 180 days from the date that the proceeding is initiated.

(3) The following administrative rules are rescinded:

(a) Privacy standards for telecommunication services, R 484.201 to R 484.208 of the Michigan administrative code.

(b) Billing standards for basic residential telecommunication service, R 484.301 to R 484.386 of the Michigan administrative code.

(c) Telecommunications service quality, R 484.519 to R 484.571 of the Michigan administrative code.

Sec. 303. (1) The sale or transfer of shares of stock of a provider of basic local exchange service is not a sale or transfer of a license or a discontinuance of service.

(2) The commission has the authority to approve or deny a proposed addition, elimination, or modification of an area code in this state. The commission shall give public notice and shall conduct a public hearing in the affected geographic area before an addition, elimination, or modification of an area code is made in this state.

(3) A license issued under this act is not transferable to an unlicensed provider.

(4) In case of the bankruptcy of a licensed provider, the commission shall establish the procedures for the transfer of the license to another qualified provider.

Sec. 304. (1) A call made to a local calling area adjacent to the caller's local calling area is considered a local call and shall be billed as a local call. Effective December 31, 2007, a call made to a called party who is not located within the geographic area of the caller's local calling area or an adjacent local calling area as defined by the commission's order in case numbers U-12515 and U-12528, dated February 5, 2001, is not a local call if the tariff of the provider originating the call does not classify the call as a local call.

(2) A provider of basic local exchange service with less than 10,000 end-users in this state may determine that their total service long run incremental cost is the same as that of a provider with more than 250,000 end-users.

Sec. 305. A provider of basic local exchange service shall not do any of the following:

(a) Discriminate against another provider by refusing or delaying access service to the local exchange.

(b) Refuse or delay interconnections or provide inferior connections to another provider.

(c) Degrade the quality of access service provided to another provider.

(d) Impair the speed, quality, or efficiency of lines used by another provider.

(e) Develop new services to take advantage of planned but not publicly known changes in the underlying network.

(f) Refuse or delay a request of another provider for information regarding the technical design, equipment capabilities and features, geographic coverage, and traffic patterns of the local exchange network.

(g) Refuse or delay access service or be unreasonable in connecting another provider to the local exchange whose product or service requires novel or specialized access service requirements.

(h) Upon a request, fail to fully disclose in a timely manner all available information necessary for the design of equipment that will meet the specifications of the local exchange network.

(i) Discriminate against any provider or any party who requests the information for commercial purposes in the dissemination of customer proprietary information. A provider shall provide without unreasonable discrimination or delay telephone directory listing information and related services to persons purchasing telephone directory listing information to the same extent and in the same quality as provided to the provider, affiliates of the provider, or any other listing information purchaser.

(j) Refuse or delay access service by any person to another provider.

(k) Bundle unwanted services or products for sale or lease to another provider.

(l) Perform any act that has been prohibited by this act or an order of the commission.

(m) Sell services or products, extend credit, or offer other terms and conditions on more favorable terms to an affiliate of the provider than the provider offers to other providers.

Sec. 305a. (1) Except as otherwise provided by federal law, where technically feasible, a provider originating or forwarding an intrastate call that is terminated on the network of another provider shall do all of the following:

(a) For originated calls, transmit the telephone number of the party originating the call. The telephone number shall be transmitted without alteration in the network signaling information.

(b) For forwarded calls, transmit the telephone number of the party originating the call to the extent that information has been provided by the originating carrier. The telephone number shall be transmitted without alteration in the network signaling information.

(2) The commission shall investigate complaints alleging violations of this section and may initiate proceedings under section 203 to resolve disputes between providers regarding identification of traffic and disputes regarding compensation rights and obligations between providers who originate, forward, or terminate intrastate traffic.

(3) If the commission determines that the telephone number has not been transmitted as required by this section, the provider against whom the complaint was filed shall demonstrate that it was not technically feasible to transmit the information, or that it had a legitimate business or other good faith reason for not transmitting the telephone number.

(4) If the commission determines that a provider violated this section, the commission shall determine if the violation resulted in a nonpayment or underpayment of compensation to the complaining provider under the terms of the parties' compensation agreement or its intrastate access tariff. The commission shall determine the amount of the nonpayment or underpayment and order the violating provider to make payment. The commission shall assess a fine against the violating provider in an amount equal to 2 times the payment amount, and may take any other action authorized by Michigan law that it considers necessary.

(5) A provider that originates an intrastate call subject to section 251(b)(5) of the telecommunications act of 1996, 47 USC 251, shall agree to establish a reciprocal compensation arrangement for the termination of those calls. Originating and terminating providers shall agree to begin negotiations no more than 30 days after the originating provider receives a request from a terminating provider to establish an arrangement. During the negotiation period, reciprocal compensation rates shall be assessed by the terminating carrier under an interim arrangement with the originating carrier. Originating and terminating providers shall use good faith efforts to conclude negotiations and finalize an agreement within a reasonable time period.

(6) A provider that originates an intrastate intra-LATA call subject to a terminating carrier's intrastate access tariffs shall pay the tariffed rate for termination of the call.

(7) The commission may resolve disputes under this section between originating and terminating providers related to negotiation of the reciprocal compensation agreement and the payment of the tariffed rates.

Sec. 305b. A provider of any telecommunication service shall do all of the following:

(a) Upon request, provide each customer a clear and simple explanation of the terms and conditions of the services purchased by the customer including, but not limited to, a statement of all fees, charges, and taxes that will be included in the customer's monthly bill.

(b) The statement required under subdivision (a) shall include a good faith estimate by the provider of the actual monthly cost that the customer will be required to pay if the service is purchased.

(c) Comply with all federal and state requirements regarding truth in billing, E 9-1-1 services, and basic local exchange service.

(d) If E 9-1-1 service is not available to the customer, ensure that the customer has an alternative means to reach emergency service responders.

Sec. 305c. A provider of basic local exchange service shall comply with the following emergency power requirements:

(a) A facilities-based provider shall equip each central office, remote switch, remote line unit, and interexchange toll switching office or access tandem with a minimum of 3 hours of peak load battery reserve, if permanent auxiliary power is installed, and 5 hours of battery reserve, if permanent emergency power is not installed, or 8 hours of battery reserve if the central office is in a remote location. A facilities-based provider shall have available a mobile power unit to be delivered and connected to central offices, remote switches, and remote line units within 8 hours.

(b) An E 9-1-1 service supplier shall provide 24-hour, 7-day-a-week database access to permit information to be acquired or corrected.

(c) A provider, E 9-1-1 service supplier, public safety answering point, or any entity providing or maintaining E 9-1-1 database information shall correct each error in the 9-1-1 system or database within 1 business day.

Sec. 309. (1) A provider of basic local exchange service shall provide to each customer local directory assistance and may distribute a printed telephone directory to each customer. If a provider of basic local exchange service elects not to distribute a printed telephone directory to each customer, a customer may request either a printed telephone

directory or an electronic telephone directory from the provider that shall provide that directory at no additional charge to the customer.

(2) A provider of basic local exchange service shall provide each customer at no additional charge the option of having access to 900 prefix services blocked through the customer's exchange service.

Sec. 310a. After June 1, 2007, all providers of telecommunication services in this state shall not charge, assess, or impose on end-users an intrastate subscriber line charge or end-user line charge.

Sec. 313. (1) A telecommunication provider that provides either basic local exchange or toll service, or both, shall not discontinue either service to an exchange unless 1 or more alternative providers for toll service, or 2 or more alternative providers for basic local exchange service, are furnishing a comparable voice service to the customers in the exchange. A comparable voice service includes any 2-way voice service offered through any form of technology that is capable of placing and receiving calls from a provider of basic local exchange service, including voice over internet protocol services and wireless services.

(2) A telecommunication provider proposing to discontinue a regulated service to an exchange shall file a notice of the discontinuance of service with the commission, publish the notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the exchange, provide notice to each of its customers within the exchange by first-class mail or within customer bills, and provide other reasonable notice as required by the commission.

(3) Within 60 days after the date of publication or receipt of the notice required by subsection (2), a person or other telecommunication provider affected by a discontinuance of services by a telecommunication provider may apply to the commission to determine if the discontinuance of service is authorized under this act. Within 90 days after the date of publication of the notice required by subsection (2), the commission may, in response to a request or on its own initiative, commence a proceeding to determine if the discontinuance of service is authorized under this act. The commission has 180 days from the date any proceeding is initiated under this subsection to issue its final order. A provider shall not discontinue service unless it has provided at least 60 days' notice to each customer after a commission order has been issued under this subsection or after the last day for initiating a proceeding under this subsection.

(4) Discontinuance of basic local exchange service under this section by an incumbent local exchange carrier does not affect the requirements of that incumbent local exchange carrier under federal law. As used in this subdivision, "incumbent local exchange carrier" means that term as defined in section 251(h) of the telecommunications act of 1996, 47 USC 251.

Sec. 315. (1) The commission shall require each provider of basic local exchange service to provide a text telephone-telecommunications device for the deaf at cost to each individual who is certified as deaf or hard of hearing or speech-impaired by a licensed physician, licensed audiologist, or qualified state agency, and to each public safety answering point as defined in section 102 of the emergency 9-1-1 service enabling act, 1986 PA 32, MCL 484.1102.

(2) The commission shall require each provider of basic local exchange service to provide a telecommunication relay service whereby persons using a text telephone-telecommunications device for the deaf can communicate with persons using a voice telephone through the use of third party intervention or automated translation. Each provider of basic local exchange service shall determine whether to provide a telecommunication relay service on its own, jointly with other basic local exchange providers, or by contract with other telecommunication providers. The commission shall determine the technical standards and essential features of text telephone and telecommunication relay service to ensure their compatibility and reliability.

(3) Rates and charges for calls placed through a telecommunication relay service shall not exceed the rates and charges for calls placed directly from the same originating location to the same terminating location. Unless ordered by the commission, a provider of a telecommunications relay service shall not be required to handle calls from public telephones except for calls charged collect or to cash, a credit card, or a third party number.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, a provider may offer discounts on toll calls where a text telephone-telecommunications device for the deaf is used. The commission shall not prohibit such discounts on toll calls placed through a telecommunication relay service.

(5) The commission shall establish a rate for each subscriber line of a provider to allow the provider to recover costs incurred under this section and may waive the costs assessed under this section to individuals who are deaf or severely hearing impaired or speech impaired. The rate established by the commission under this subsection may be assessed as a line item on an end-user's bill.

Sec. 316. (1) The commission shall require each provider of residential basic local exchange service to offer certain low income customers the availability of basic local exchange service and access service at reduced rates as described in subsections (2) and (3).

(2) Except as provided under subsections (3) and (4), the rate reductions for low income customers shall be at a minimum, 20% of the basic local exchange rate or \$8.25, which shall be, inclusive of any federal contribution, whichever is greater.

(3) Except as provided under subsection (4), if the low income customer is 65 years of age or older, the rate reduction shall be, at a minimum, 25% of the basic local exchange rate or \$12.35, which shall be inclusive of any federal contribution, whichever is greater.

(4) The total reduction under subsection (2) or (3) shall not exceed 100% of all end-user common line charges and the basic local exchange rate. The dollar amounts in subsections (2) and (3) shall be adjusted annually to reflect any increases or decreases in the federal contribution.

(5) To qualify for the reduced rate under this section, the person's annual income shall not exceed 150% of the federal poverty guidelines published annually in the federal register by the United States department of health and human services and as approved by the state treasurer, or the person must participate in 1 of the following federal assistance programs:

- (a) Medicaid.
- (b) Food stamps.
- (c) Supplemental security income.
- (d) Federal public housing assistance.
- (e) Low-income home energy assistance program.
- (f) National school lunch program's free lunch program.
- (g) Temporary assistance for needy families.

(6) The commission shall establish a rate for each subscriber line of a provider to allow the provider to recover costs incurred under this section. The rate established by the commission under this subsection may be assessed as a line item on an end-user's bill.

(7) The commission shall take necessary action to notify the general public of the availability of lifeline services including, but not limited to, public service announcements, newspaper notices, and any other notice reasonably calculated to reach those who may benefit from the services.

Sec. 353a. (1) When negotiating a successor interconnection agreement, unless the parties agree otherwise, the parties shall use an interconnection agreement which has been approved by the commission in the 3-year period immediately preceding the commencement of negotiations as the baseline document.

(2) If a party negotiating an interconnection agreement takes a position that the opposing party believes is contrary to a prior ruling of the commission in an arbitration proceeding, the opposing party may file a motion with the commission for a determination under this section. The motion shall be filed no later than 90 days from the commencement of negotiations. The commission shall rule upon the motion within 21 days of the date the motion is filed, and the commission shall determine the extent to which the issue may be relitigated.

Sec. 401. (1) Except as otherwise provided by law or preempted by federal law, the commission does not have authority over enhanced services, paging, cellular, mobile, answering services, retail broadband service, video, cable service, pay-per-view, shared tenant, private networks, financial services networks, radio and television, WATS, personal communication networks, municipally owned telecommunication system, 800 prefix services, burglar and fire alarm services, energy management services, except for state institutions of higher education the reselling of centrex or its equivalent, payphone services, interconnected voice over internet protocol service, and the reselling of an unlicensed telecommunication service. The services listed in this subsection shall not be considered part of basic local exchange service.

(2) The commission has authority over the telecommunication services specifically provided for in this act.

(3) This section does not modify or affect either of the following:

(a) The authority of a provider or the commission to act pursuant to or enforce 47 USC 251, 47 USC 252, any lawful and applicable tariff, or any state law, regulation, or order related to wholesale rights and obligations, including the rights and obligations of local exchange carriers to interconnect and exchange voice traffic.

(b) The payment of switched access rates or other intercarrier compensation rates, as applicable.

Sec. 502. (1) A provider of a basic local exchange service shall not do any of the following:

(a) Make a statement or representation, including the omission of material information, regarding the rates, terms, or conditions of providing a service that is intentionally false, misleading, or deceptive. As used in this subdivision, "material information" includes, but is not limited to, a good faith estimate of all applicable fees, taxes, and charges that will be billed to the end-user, regardless of whether the fees, taxes, or charges are authorized by state or federal law.

(b) Charge an end-user for a subscribed service for which the end-user did not make an initial affirmative order. Failure to refuse an offered or proposed subscribed service is not an affirmative order for the service.

(c) If an end-user has canceled a service, charge the end-user for service provided after the effective date the service was canceled.

(d) Cause a probability of confusion or a misunderstanding as to the legal rights, obligations, or remedies of a party to a transaction by making an intentionally false, deceptive, or misleading statement or by failing to inform the customer of a material fact, the omission of which is deceptive or misleading.

(e) Represent or imply that the subject of a transaction will be provided promptly, or at a specified time, or within a reasonable time, if the provider knows or has reason to know it will not be so provided.

(f) Require the purchase of a regulated service of the provider as a condition of purchasing an unregulated service.

(g) If a bona fide dispute exists between a customer and the provider, disconnect the service to the customer before the resolution of that dispute.

(2) When the commission has authority to bring a proceeding for a violation of this section, the commission may accept an assurance of discontinuance of a method, act, or practice that is alleged to be unlawful under this section from the person who is alleged to have engaged, be engaging, or be about to engage in the method, act, or practice. The assurance of discontinuance is not an admission of guilt and shall not be introduced in any other proceeding. Unless rescinded by the parties or voided by the court for good cause, the parties to the assurance of discontinuance may enforce the assurance in circuit court. The assurance of discontinuance may include a stipulation for any of the following:

(a) The voluntary payment by the person for the cost of investigation.

(b) An amount to be held in escrow pending the outcome of an action.

(c) An amount for restitution to an aggrieved person.

Sec. 503. A person who obtains an unpublished telephone number using a telephone caller identification service shall not do any of the following without the written consent of the customer of the unpublished telephone number:

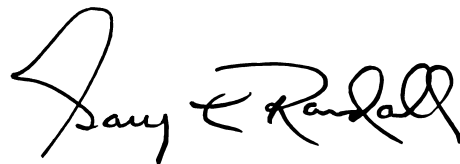
(a) Disclose the unpublished telephone number to another person for commercial gain.

(b) Use the unpublished telephone number to solicit business.

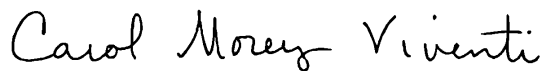
(c) Intentionally disclose the unpublished telephone number through a computer data base, on-line bulletin board, or other similar mechanism.

Enacting section 1. Sections 301a, 306, 308, 309a, 309b, 311, 312, 314, 321, 362, 504, and 602 of the Michigan telecommunications act, 1991 PA 179, MCL 484.2301a, 484.2306, 484.2308, 484.2309a, 484.2309b, 484.2311, 484.2312, 484.2314, 484.2321, 484.2362, 484.2504, and 484.2602, are repealed.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Clerk of the House of Representatives



Secretary of the Senate

Approved

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Governor