

FIRST REGULAR SESSION
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 555
95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy and the Environment, March 26, 2009, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass.

1027S.04C

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 392, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to exchange access rates.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 392, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 392.600, to read as follows:

392.600. 1. The general assembly finds and declares it to be beneficial to Missouri consumers and the competitive market to change historical public policy and bring more transparency to rates for telecommunications services by reducing hidden subsidies within the intrastate switched exchange access compensation system through the reduction of switched exchange access rates paid from one company to another to originate and terminate telephone calls.

2. As used in this section, "composite" shall mean, when referring to intrastate or interstate switched exchange access rates, the sum of all of the traffic sensitive and non-traffic sensitive tariffed rate elements included in originating and terminating intrastate and interstate switched exchange access service, including, but not limited to, carrier common line, but excluding any subscriber line charges approved by the Federal Communications Commission.

3. Originating and terminating intrastate switched exchange access rates shall be reduced by all incumbent local exchange telecommunications companies, except that the provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under section 392.240. Each incumbent local exchange telecommunications company subject to this

21 subsection shall decrease its composite originating and terminating
22 intrastate switched exchange access rates according to the following
23 schedule:

24 (1) By September 30, 2010, each company's new composite
25 intrastate switched exchange access rate shall be its current composite
26 intrastate switched exchange access rate minus fifty percent of the
27 difference between its current composite intrastate switched exchange
28 access rate and its composite interstate switched exchange access rate;

29 (2) Two years after the rate reduction in subdivision (1) of this
30 subsection, each company's composite intrastate switched exchange
31 access rate shall be its then current composite intrastate switched
32 exchange access rate minus fifty percent of the difference between its
33 then current composite intrastate switched exchange access rate and
34 its composite interstate switched exchange access rate;

35 (3) Beginning four years after the rate reduction in subdivision
36 (1) of this subsection, each company's composite intrastate switched
37 exchange access rate shall be equal to its composite interstate switched
38 exchange access rate.

Bill ✓

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