

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

.
.
.



1 Representative Mayfield offered the following:

2

3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Remove everything after the enacting clause, and insert:

5 Section 1. (1) The Florida Telecommunications Policy
6 Strategy Task Force is created and housed for administrative
7 purposes within the Public Service Commission. The task force
8 shall operate independently of the commission.

9 (2)(a) The task force shall consist of seven members,
10 three appointed by the Governor, two appointed by the President
11 of the Senate, and two appointed by the Speaker of the House of
12 Representatives. Members shall serve at the pleasure of the
13 appointing official. Any vacancy shall be filled in the same
14 manner as the original appointment.

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

15 (b) Only members who possess expertise in state or
16 national telecommunications policy, legal developments, and
17 technical matters may be appointed.

18 (c) A person who works directly for or who performs
19 contract work for a telecommunications company may not be
20 appointed.

21 (d) Members shall serve without compensation but shall be
22 entitled to reimbursement of travel and per diem expenses
23 pursuant to s. 112.061, Florida Statutes, relating to completing
24 their duties and responsibilities under this section.

25 (3) The task force shall:

26 (a) Survey existing national and state regulatory, rate,
27 and tax policies relating to the telecommunications industry.

28 (b) Provide the Legislature with a concise presentation of
29 the telecommunications policy landscape.

30 (c) Identify and make recommendations relating to key tax
31 and regulatory issues that the Legislature and the Public
32 Service Commission should address, consistent with the
33 principles enumerated in subsection (4).

34 (d) Make specific recommendations for the Legislature's
35 consideration.

36 (4) In conducting its investigations, deliberating, and
37 making recommendations, the task force shall consider the
38 following principles:

39 (a) The state should pursue policies that seek to maximize
40 access by residents of this state to the widest number of
41 technologies. At a minimum, all residents of this state should
42 have access to affordable telephone service.

662439

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

43 (b) Recommendations should be revenue neutral or revenue
44 reducing; that is, revenues generated from telecommunications
45 taxes in the aggregate should in no case exceed projected
46 aggregate revenues if no changes in policies are made.

47 (c) Taxes and regulations should be applied equitably;
48 that is, government policies should not favor certain
49 technologies over others and should not create or allow
50 competitive inequities among providers or users of
51 communications services.

52 (d) Government intervention should be avoided to the
53 greatest extent possible, except as necessary to ensure a
54 predictable, competitive telecommunications environment that
55 minimizes the likelihood of lawsuits, provides basic consumer
56 protections, and provides all residents of this state with
57 access to affordable telephone service.

58 (e) Competition should be encouraged among
59 telecommunications companies and among telecommunications
60 technologies.

61 (5) The task force shall select a chair and vice chair and
62 shall meet at the call of the chair or as often as necessary to
63 accomplish the purposes of this section.

64 (6) The Public Service Commission shall provide
65 administrative support and staff for the task force.

66 (7) The task force shall prepare a report containing a
67 summary of its investigations and deliberations and any
68 recommendations and submit the report to the Governor, the
69 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
70 Representatives by November 30, 2004.

662439

Amendment No. (for drafter's use only)

71 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

72

73 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

74 Remove the entire title, and insert:

75 A bill to be entitled

76 An act relating to telecommunications services; creating

77 the Florida Telecommunications Policy Strategy Task

78 Force; providing for appointment of members; providing

79 qualifications and limitations; providing

80 responsibilities; providing guiding principles; requiring

81 the Public Service Commission to provide administrative

82 support and staff; requiring a report to the Governor and

83 Legislature; providing an effective date.