

By the Committee on Communications and Public Utilities

579-912B-05

1   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Lifeline and Link-Up  
 3           Assistance Program; amending s. 364.10, F.S.;  
 4           requiring the Public Service Commission to  
 5           increase enrollment of customers in the  
 6           Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Program;  
 7           directing the commission to establish  
 8           eligibility criteria for the program; requiring  
 9           the commission to review the current  
 10          promotional efforts of the telecommunications  
 11          companies participating in the program;  
 12          authorizing the commission to direct the  
 13          participating telecommunications companies to  
 14          increase their promotional programs and related  
 15          promotional spending; requiring the commission  
 16          to establish enrollment procedures; requiring  
 17          the commission to adopt rules; providing an  
 18          effective date.

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 20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 22           Section 1. Subsection (4) is added to section 364.10,  
 23 Florida Statutes, to read:

24           364.10 Undue advantage to person or locality  
 25 prohibited; Lifeline service.--

26           (4) In order to promote and enroll as many customers  
 27 as possible who are eligible to participate in the Lifeline  
 28 and Link-Up Assistance Program, the commission shall:

29           (a) Establish eligibility criteria consistent with the  
 30 criteria established by the Federal Communications Commission  
 31 and any Florida-specific criteria developed by the commission.

1 All eligibility criteria adopted must further the purpose of  
2 the Lifeline and Link-Up Assistance Program.

3 (b) Review annually the promotional efforts of all  
4 telecommunications companies offering Lifeline and Link-Up  
5 Assistance and include the results of that review in the  
6 annual report required by paragraph (3)(e). Based upon the  
7 review, the commission may direct the participating  
8 telecommunications companies to increase promotional programs  
9 and related spending.

10 (c) Establish enrollment procedures for customers who  
11 have qualified for Lifeline Assistance.

12 (d) Establish procedures to ensure timely credits for  
13 customers who have qualified for Lifeline Assistance.

14 (e) Adopt rules to administer this subsection.

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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18 SENATE SUMMARY

19 Requires the Public Service Commission to increase  
20 enrollment of customers in the Lifeline and Link-Up  
21 Assistance Program. Directs the commission to establish  
22 eligibility criteria for the program. Requires the  
23 commission to review the current promotional efforts of  
24 the telecommunications companies participating in the  
25 program. Authorizes the commission to direct the  
26 participating telecommunications companies to increase  
27 their promotional programs and related spending. Requires  
28 the commission to establish enrollment procedures.  
29 Requires that the commission adopt rules.