By Senator Argenziano

3-1247-07

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to Lifeline telecommunications services; amending s. 364.10, F.S.; requiring each state agency that determines that a person is eligible for Lifeline service to act immediately to ensure that the person is enrolled in the Lifeline service program; requiring that the Public Service Commission adopt rules by a specified date; requiring the Public Service Commission, the Department of Children and Family Services, and the Office of Public Counsel to enter into a memorandum of understanding regarding their respective duties under the Lifeline service program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section 364.10, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(3)

(h)1. By December 31, 2007 ~~2003~~, each state agency that provides benefits to persons eligible for Lifeline service shall undertake, in cooperation with the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Education, the commission, the Office of Public Counsel, and telecommunications companies providing Lifeline services, the development of procedures to promote Lifeline participation.

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2. If any state agency determines that a person is eligible for Lifeline service, the agency must act immediately to ensure that the person is automatically enrolled in the program with the appropriate eligible telecommunications carrier. The Public Service Commission shall, no later than September 1, 2007, adopt rules creating procedures to automatically enroll eligible customers in Lifeline service. The rules must include an option for an eligible customer to choose not to subscribe to the Lifeline service.

3. The commission, the Department of Children and Family Services, and the Office of Public Counsel shall enter into a memorandum of understanding establishing the respective duties of the commission, the department, and the public counsel with respect to the automatic enrollment procedures.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Requires each state agency that determines that a person is eligible for Lifeline service to act immediately to ensure that the person is enrolled in the Lifeline service program. Requires the Public Service Commission to adopt rules by a specified date. Requires the Public Service Commission, the Department of Children and Family Services, and the Office of Public Counsel to enter into a memorandum of understanding regarding their respective duties under the Lifeline service program.

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