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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to telephone and telegraph companies; repealing s. 362.01, F.S., relating to the power of telephone and telegraph companies to erect posts, wires, and other fixtures on or beside any public road or highway; repealing s. 362.02, F.S., relating to the right of telephone and telegraph companies to construct, maintain, and operate lines along and upon the right-of-way of any railroad and to exercise eminent domain for that purpose; amending s. 337.401, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. <u>Sections 362.01 and 362.02</u>, Florida Statutes, <u>are repealed</u>.

Section 2. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section 337.401, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.401 Use of right-of-way for utilities subject to regulation; permit; fees.—

(3)

(h) A provider of communications services that has obtained permission to occupy the roads or rights-of-way of an incorporated municipality pursuant to <u>former</u> s. 362.01 or that is otherwise lawfully occupying the roads or rights-of-way of a municipality shall not be required to obtain consent to continue such lawful occupation of those roads or rights-of-way; however, nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted to limit the

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power of a municipality to adopt or enforce reasonable rules or regulations as provided in this section.

31 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.