

## Session 121 - (2015-2016)

### **S\*0277 (Rat #0192, Act #0181 of 2016) General Bill, By Alexander, Rankin and Hutto**

#### **Summary:** State Telecom Equity in Funding Act

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, SO AS TO ENACT THE "STATE TELECOM EQUITY IN FUNDING ACT"; BY ADDING SECTION 58-9-2515 SO AS TO CLARIFY THE JURISDICTION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OVER LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE CARRIERS, PREPAID WIRELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS, COMMERCIAL MOBILE RADIO SERVICE PROVIDERS, AND VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL PROVIDERS; BY ADDING SECTION 58-9-2535 SO AS TO PROVIDE LOCAL EXCHANGE PROVIDERS, COMMERCIAL MOBILE RADIO SERVICE PROVIDERS, VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL SERVICE PROVIDERS, AND PREPAID WIRELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS SHALL COLLECT DUAL PARTY RELAY CHARGES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED BILLING DETERMINATIONS, FEE RETENTIONS, LIABILITY LIMITS, AND GOVERNMENTAL RESTRICTIONS AND OBLIGATIONS, AMONG OTHER THINGS; TO AMEND SECTION 58-9-10, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF TELEPHONE SERVICES, SO AS TO REVISE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 58-9-280, RELATING TO THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE COLLECTION AND REMITTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND AND THE PROVISION AND MAINTENANCE OF CERTAIN RELATED INFORMATION, TO PERMIT THE RETENTION OF A PORTION OF THESE COLLECTIONS AS ADMINISTRATIVE FEES, TO LIMIT THE SIZE OF THE FUND, TO PROVIDE VARIOUS LIABILITY LIMITATIONS FOR PREVIOUSLY RENDERED SERVICES, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN RANDOM COMPLIANCE AUDITS AND RELATED INVESTIGATIONS OF FUND RECIPIENTS BY THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF, TO REQUIRE THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF TO REPORT CERTAIN INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE, AND TO PROVIDE THAT ALL REVISIONS MADE BY THIS SECTION ARE VOID IF ANY ARE FINALLY ADJUDICATED TO BE INVALID, AMONG OTHER THINGS; TO AMEND SECTION 58-9-576, RELATING TO CERTAIN ELECTIONS BY LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION MAY NOT REGULATE CERTAIN STAND ALONE BASIC RESIDENTIAL LINES OF CARRIERS IN SERVICE BEFORE AN ELECTION DATE, TO PROVIDE AN EXCEPTION ALLOWING THE COMMISSION TO ORDER SUCH LOCAL EXCHANGE CARRIERS TO PROVIDE VOICE SERVICES TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, TO PROVIDE PROCEDURES FOR THE TERMINATION OF THESE SERVICES, AND TO DEFINE NECESSARY TERMINOLOGY; TO AMEND SECTION 58-9-2510, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS CONCERNING TELEPHONE SERVICE FOR HEARING AND SPEECH IMPAIRED PEOPLE, SO AS TO REVISE THESE DEFINITIONS AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL NECESSARY DEFINITIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 58-9-2530, RELATING TO THE OPERATING FUND FOR A SYSTEM OF DUAL PARTY RELAY DEVICES AND RELATED TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES FOR THE DEAF, SO AS TO INCLUDE COMMERCIAL MOBILE RADIO SERVICE PROVIDERS, VOICE OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL SERVICE PROVIDERS, AND PREPAID WIRELESS SELLERS AMONG THE ENTITIES THAT MUST IMPOSE RELATED FEES, TO REDUCE THE MAXIMUM CHARGE FROM TWENTY-FIVE CENTS TO TEN CENTS, TO REQUIRE UNIFORMITY OF THE FEES AMONG ALL PROVIDERS AND SELLERS REQUIRED TO IMPOSE THE FEES, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE REMITTAL AND TRANSFERAL OF COLLECTED FEES TO THE FUND; TO AMEND SECTION 58-9-576, RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF A "SINGLE-LINE BASIC RESIDENTIAL SERVICE", SO AS TO REVISE THE DEFINITION; AND TO REPEAL SECTION 58-9-2540 RELATING TO AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONCERNING STATEWIDE TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY ACCESS SERVICE. - ratified title

01/13/15	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 164)
01/13/15	Senate	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 164)
01/15/15	Senate	Referred to Subcommittee: Rankin (ch), Hutto, Turner
02/25/15	Senate	Committee report: Majority favorable with amend., minority unfavorable Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 17)
02/26/15		Scrivener's error corrected
03/18/15	Senate	Minority Report Removed (Senate Journal-page 35)
04/23/15	Senate	Motion to Set Bill for Adjourned Debate Failed (Senate Journal-page 93)
04/23/15	Senate	Roll call Ayes-9 Nays-31 (Senate Journal-page 93)
04/29/15	Senate	Committee Amendment Adopted (Senate Journal-page 43)
04/29/15	Senate	Read second time (Senate Journal-page 43)
04/30/15	Senate	Amended (Senate Journal-page 12)
04/30/15	Senate	Read third time and sent to House (Senate Journal-page 12)
04/30/15	Senate	Roll call Ayes-22 Nays-20 (Senate Journal-page 12)
05/01/15		Scrivener's error corrected

05/05/15 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 19)  
05/05/15 House Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry (House Journal-page 19)  
04/20/16 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment Labor, Commerce and Industry (House Journal-page 347)  
04/21/16 Scrivener's error corrected  
04/26/16 House Debate adjourned until Wed., 5-4-16 (House Journal-page 17)  
05/04/16 House Requests for debate-Rep(s). Sandifer, Hiott, Whitmire, Hill, HA Crawford, Ryhal, Hardee, Ott, Merrill, Crosby, Wells, Jefferson, Bamberg, Gambrell (House Journal-page 11)  
05/04/16 House Amended (House Journal-page 45)  
05/04/16 House Read second time (House Journal-page 45)  
05/04/16 House Roll call Yeas-103 Nays-2 (House Journal-page 99)  
05/05/16 Scrivener's error corrected  
05/05/16 House Read third time and returned to Senate with amendments (House Journal-page 147)  
05/18/16 Senate Concurred in House amendment and enrolled (Senate Journal-page 53)  
05/24/16 Ratified R 192  
05/25/16 Signed By Governor  
05/27/16 Effective date 05/25/16  
05/31/16 Act No. 181