

**SENATE BILL NO. 823**

December 2, 1997, Introduced by Senator HOFFMAN and referred to the Committee on Technology and Energy.

A bill to amend 1991 PA 179, entitled "Michigan telecommunications act," by amending section 304b (MCL 484.2304b), as added by 1995 PA 216.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 304b. (1) A provider of basic local exchange service  
2 shall develop and offer various rate plans that reflect residen-  
3 tial customer calling patterns AND NEEDS that shall include, but  
4 not limited to, all of the following at the option of the cus-  
5 tomer unless it is not technologically feasible:

6       (a) A flat rate allowing unlimited personal and domestic  
7 outgoing calls.

8       (b) A flat rate allowing personal and domestic outgoing  
9 calls up to 400 calls per month per line. Calls in excess of 400  
10 per month may be charged at an incremental rate as set by the

1 provider under section 304. If a customer has more than 1 line  
2 at the same location that appears on the customer's bill, the  
3 allowable calls under this subdivision shall be the aggregate of  
4 all the lines regardless from which line the calls originate. A  
5 person who is handicapped or is voluntarily providing a service  
6 for an organization classified by the internal revenue service as  
7 a section 501(c)(3) or (19) organization, or a congressionally  
8 chartered veterans organization or their duly authorized founda-  
9 tions, is exempt from the 400 calls per month limitation and  
10 shall receive a flat rate allowing unlimited calls per month. A  
11 person exempt from the call cap under this subdivision shall not  
12 be charged a rate greater than the flat rate charged other resi-  
13 dential customers for 400 calls.

14 (c) A flat rate allowing personal and domestic outgoing  
15 calls of not less than 50 nor more than 150 per month, per line.  
16 Providers may offer additional plans allowing personal and domes-  
17 tic outgoing calls of not less than 150 per month nor more than  
18 400 per month, per line. Calls in excess of upper per call limit  
19 per month may be charged at an incremental rate as set by the  
20 provider under section 304. If a customer has more than 1 line  
21 at the same location that appears on the customer's bill, the  
22 allowable calls under this subdivision shall be the aggregate of  
23 all the lines regardless from which line the calls originate.

24 (d) A rate determined by the time duration of service usage  
25 or the distance between the points of service origination and  
26 termination.

1 (e) A rate determined by the number of times the service is  
2 used.

3 (f) A rate that includes 1 or more of the rates allowed by  
4 this section.

5 (g) A rate that includes toll-free calling to contiguous  
6 Michigan local calling exchanges. THE RATE CHARGED FOR THIS  
7 SERVICE SHALL NOT EXCEED THE COST OF PROVIDING SERVICE.

8 (2) If an option required under subsection (1) is not being  
9 offered by the provider on January 1, 1996, the provider shall  
10 set the initial rate for the option.

11 (3) A provider who, together with any affiliated providers,  
12 provides basic local exchange service or basic local exchange and  
13 toll service to less than 250,000 end-users in this state is not  
14 required to provide a rate plan required under subsection ~~(1)~~  
15 (1)(A) TO (F) if it is not economically feasible to provide the  
16 rate plan.