



HOUSE BILL No. 5734

May 4, 2000, Introduced by Reps. Woronchak, Scranton, Julian and Bishop and referred to the Committee on Energy and Technology.

A bill to amend 1976 PA 331, entitled
"Michigan consumer protection act,"
(MCL 445.901 to 445.922) by adding section 3e.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 SEC. 3E. (1) ALL PROVIDERS OF PREPAID CALLING SERVICES
2 SHALL DISPLAY IN A CONSPICUOUS MANNER ON PREPAID CALLING CARDS
3 AND ON ANY ACCOMPANYING PACKAGING ALL OF THE FOLLOWING
4 INFORMATION:
5 (A) THE NAME OF THE PROVIDER OF THE PREPAID CALLING SERVICES
6 AS REGISTERED WITH THE COMMISSION UNDER SECTION 3F.
7 (B) THE ACTUAL TOTAL CHARGE PER MINUTE FOR THE FIRST MINUTE
8 AND FOR EACH ADDITIONAL MINUTE FOR THE PREPAID CALLING SERVICE.
9 THE QUOTED CHARGE SHALL INCLUDE ALL CALLING CHARGES, SURCHARGES,
10 FEES, AND TAXES. THE QUOTED CHARGE SHALL BE IN THE SAME SIZE

1 TYPE FACE AS ANY OTHER PER MINUTE RATE SHOWN ON THE CARD OR THE
2 PACKAGING OF THE CARD.

3 (C) A TOLL-FREE NETWORK ACCESS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE NUMBER
4 THAT THE END USER CAN CALL TO OBTAIN AN ACCOUNTING OF CARD USE AT
5 NO CHARGE TO THE END USER.

6 (D) INFORMATION ON HOW TO CONTACT THE COMMISSION.

7 (E) ANY EXPIRATION POLICY.

8 (2) ALL PROVIDERS OF PREPAID CALLING SERVICES SHALL REQUIRE
9 BY CONTRACT WITH RETAILERS AND DISTRIBUTORS THE REQUIREMENTS OF
10 THIS SECTION.

11 (3) ALL PROVIDERS OF PREPAID CALLING SERVICES SHALL, AT THE
12 BEGINNING OF EACH CALL MADE THROUGH THE ACCESS NUMBER, AND ON
13 REQUEST WHEN THE END USER PLACES A CALL TO THE PROVIDER'S CUS-
14 TOMER SERVICE NUMBER, ALL OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

15 (A) THAT A COMPLETE RATE QUOTE FOR THE CALL, INCLUDING ALL
16 SURCHARGES OR OTHER CHARGES, IS AVAILABLE AND HOW TO OBTAIN THE
17 COMPLETE RATE QUOTE WITHOUT HANGING UP THE TELEPHONE OR INCURRING
18 A CHARGE.

19 (B) A DISCLOSURE OF THE REMAINING BALANCE ON THE PREPAID
20 CALLING CARD.

21 (C) THE EXPIRATION DATE, IF ANY, OF THE PREPAID CALLING
22 CARD.

23 (D) THAT THERE WILL BE NO CHARGE FOR AN UNCOMPLETED CALL.

24 (4) AS USED IN THIS SECTION AND SECTION 3F:

25 (A) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMIS-
26 SION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND INDUSTRY SERVICES.

1 (B) "PREPAID CALLING CARD" MEANS AN OBJECT CONTAINING AN
2 ACCESS NUMBER OR AUTHORIZATION CODE THAT ENABLES AN END USER TO
3 USE PREPAID CALLING SERVICES.

4 (C) "PREPAID CALLING SERVICES" MEANS A PREPAID TELECOMMUNI-
5 CATIONS SERVICE THAT ALLOWS END USERS TO ORIGINATE CALLS THROUGH
6 AN ACCESS NUMBER OR AUTHORIZATION CODE.

7 (D) "PROVIDER" MEANS A PERSON PROVIDING PREPAID CALLING
8 SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC USING ITS OWN OR RESOLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS
9 SERVICES. A RETAIL STORE OR OTHER RETAIL DISTRIBUTOR IS A PRO-
10 VIDER OF PREPAID CALLING SERVICES IF ITS NAME IS LISTED ON THE
11 PREPAID CALLING CARD, OR IF IT OTHERWISE IS PROVIDING ITS OWN OR
12 RESOLD TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES.