ENROLLED SENATE
BILL NO. 376

By: Robinson of the Senate

and

Ervin of the House

An Act relating to telecommunications; amending Section 2, Chapter 408, O.S.L. 1997, as amended by Section 9, Chapter 246, O.S.L. 1998 (17 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 139.102), which relates to definitions; modifying definition; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 2, Chapter 408, O.S.L. 1997, as amended by Section 9, Chapter 246, O.S.L. 1998 (17 O.S. Supp. 2000, Section 139.102), is amended to read as follows:

Section 139.102 As used in the Oklahoma Telecommunications Act of 1997:

1. "Access line" means the facility provided and maintained by a telecommunications service provider which permits access to or from the public switched network;

2. "Commission" means the Corporation Commission of this state;

3. "Competitive local exchange carrier" or "CLEC" means, with respect to an area or exchange, a telecommunications service provider that is certificated by the Commission to provide local exchange services in that area or exchange within the state after July 1, 1995;

4. "Competitively neutral" means not advantaging or favoring one person over another;

5. "End User Common Line Charge" means the flat-rate monthly interstate access charge required by the Federal Communications Commission that contributes to the cost of local service;

6. "Enhanced service" means a service that is delivered over communications transmission facilities and that uses computer processing applications to:

a. change the content, format, code, or protocol of transmitted information,

b. provide the customer new or restructured information, or

c. involve end-user interaction with information stored in a computer;

7. "Exchange" means a geographic area established by an incumbent local exchange telecommunications provider as filed with or approved by the Commission for the administration of local telecommunications service in a specified area which usually embraces a city, town, or village and its environs and which may consist of one or more central offices together with associated plant used in furnishing telecommunications service in that area;

8. "Facilities" means all the plant and equipment of a telecommunications service provider, including all tangible and intangible real and personal property without limitation, and any and all means and instrumentalities in any manner owned, operated, leased, licensed, used, controlled, furnished, or supplied for, by, or in connection with the regulated business of any telecommunications service provider;

9. "Incumbent local exchange telecommunications service provider" or "ILEC" means, with respect to an area or exchanges, any telecommunications service provider furnishing local exchange service in such area or exchanges within this state on July 1, 1995, pursuant to a certificate of convenience and necessity or grandfathered authority;

10. "Interexchange telecommunications carrier" or "IXC" means any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity, except an incumbent local exchange telecommunications service provider, engaged in furnishing regulated interexchange telecommunications services under the jurisdiction of the Commission;

11. "Internet" means the international research-oriented network comprised of business, government, academic and other networks;

12. "Local exchange telecommunications service" means a regulated switched or dedicated telecommunications service which originates and terminates within an exchange or an exchange service territory. Local exchange telecommunications service may be terminated by a telecommunications service provider other than the telecommunications service provider on whose network the call originated. The local exchange service territory defined in the originating provider's tariff shall determine whether the call is local exchange service;

13. "Local exchange telecommunications service provider" means a company holding a certificate of convenience and necessity from the Commission to provide local exchange telecommunications service;

14. "Not-for-profit hospital" means:

a. a hospital established as exempt from taxation pursuant to the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C., Section 501(c)(3), or

b. a ~~municipal~~ not-for-profit hospital owned by a municipality, county, or ~~state government-owned, not-for-profit hospital~~ the state,

that is primarily funded by county, state, or federal support, ~~which is~~ located in ~~the~~ this state, and ~~is~~ devoted primarily ~~for~~ to the maintenance and operation of facilities for the diagnosis, treatment, or care of patients admitted overnight or longer in order to obtain medical care, surgical care, or obstetrical care;

15. "Oklahoma High Cost Fund" means the fund established by the Commission in Cause Nos. PUD 950000117 and 950000119;

16. "Oklahoma Lifeline Fund" means the fund established and required to be implemented by the Commission pursuant to Section 139.105 of this title;

17. "Oklahoma Universal Service Fund" means the fund established and required to be implemented by the Commission pursuant to Section 139.106 of this title;

18. "Person" means any individual, partnership, association, corporation, governmental entity, public or private organization of any character, or any other entity;

19. "Primary universal service" means an access line and dial tone provided to the premises of residential or business customers which provides access to other lines for the transmission of two-way switched or dedicated communication in the local calling area without additional, usage-sensitive charges, including:

a. a primary directory listing,

b. dual-tone multifrequency signaling,

c. access to operator services,

d. access to directory assistance services,

e. access to telecommunications relay services for the deaf or hard-of-hearing,

f. access to nine-one-one service where provided by a local governmental authority or multijurisdictional authority, and

g. access to interexchange long distance services;

20. "Public library" means a library or library system that is freely open to all persons under identical conditions and which is supported in whole or in part by public funds. Public library shall not include libraries operated as part of any university, college, school museum, the Oklahoma Historical Society or county law libraries;

21. "Public school" means all free schools supported by public taxation, and shall include grades kindergarten through twelve;

22. "Regulated telecommunications service" means the offering of telecommunications for a fee directly to the public where the rates for such service are regulated by the Commission. Regulated telecommunications service does not include the provision of nontelecommunications services, including, but not limited to, the printing, distribution, or sale of advertising in telephone directories, maintenance of inside wire, customer premises equipment, and billing and collection service, nor does it include the provision of wireless telephone service, enhanced service, and other unregulated services, including services not under the jurisdiction of the Commission, and services determined by the Commission to be competitive;

23. "Special Universal Services" means the telecommunications services supported by the OUSF which are furnished to public schools, public libraries, not-for-profit hospitals and county seats as provided for in Section 139.109 of this title;

24. "Tariff" means all or any part of the body of rates, tolls, charges, classifications, and terms and conditions of service relating to regulated services offered, the conditions under which offered, and the charges therefor, which have been filed with the Commission and have become effective;

25. "Telecommunications" means the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of voice or data information of the user's choosing, without change in the form or content of the information as sent and received;

26. "Telecommunications carrier" means a person that provides telecommunications service in this state;

27. "Telecommunications service" means the offering of telecommunications for a fee;

28. "Universal service area" has the same meaning as the term "service area" as defined in 47 U.S.C., Section 214(e)(5); and

29. "Wire center" means a geographic area normally served by a central office.

SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

Passed the Senate the 28th day of February, 2001.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

Passed the House of Representatives the 9th day of April, 2001.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives