

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

SENATE BILL 708

By: Leewright

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to telecommunications; imposing maximum charges with respect to certain connections to utility poles; prescribing method for determination of permissible rate increases; excluding rates related to electric power; providing for payment of rates for electric services; stating requirement of certain contract with cooperative; requiring payment by rural electric cooperatives for certain relocations; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 437.35 of Title 18, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The rates charged by a rural electric cooperative for attachments to utility poles by communications services providers shall not exceed Twenty-one Dollars (\$21.00) per rural-electric-cooperative-owned pole per year. This rate may be adjusted by ten percent (10%) every five (5) years rounded to the nearest dollar.

B. The rates provided in this section do not include any applicable charges for electric power. A communications services

1 provider must pay separately for such services and such services  
2 shall be at market rate.

3 C. The monetary cap provided in this section does not eliminate  
4 the requirement of pole attachers to contract with the cooperative  
5 on terms and conditions of the attachments.

6 D. Any rural electric cooperative that attaches to a pole that  
7 results in the relocation of a communications services provider's  
8 existing attachment; provided, that such attachment was previously  
9 in compliance with all agreed upon safety and contractual standards,  
10 shall pay for the cost of the relocation of the communications  
11 services provider's attachment including pole replacement if  
12 necessary.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

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