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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **2351**

March 24, 2007

Authored by Johnson, Thissen, Beard, Hoppe, Kranz and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor

March 13, 2008

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:
To Pass as Amended and Read Second Time
By motion, re-referred to the Committee on Local Government and Metropolitan Affairs

March 18, 2008

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:
To Pass and re-referred to the Committee on Finance

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to telecommunications; requiring a study of the impact of state video
1.3 franchising in states that have enacted such legislation.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **STATE VIDEO FRANCHISING STUDY.**

1.6 Subdivision 1. Study contents. The Department of Commerce shall contract for a
1.7 study of the impact of legislation enacted in at least three states that requires franchises
1.8 for video service to be issued by a state agency. The contractor conducting the study
1.9 shall, prior to its initiation, consult with associations representing municipalities and
1.10 communities of color. The study shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:

1.11 (1) the number of new video service providers that have applied for a state video
1.12 franchise;

1.13 (2) the number of incumbent video service providers that have elected to terminate
1.14 an existing franchise agreement and apply for a state video franchise;

1.15 (3) the amount of capital invested by new video service providers to furnish video
1.16 service;

1.17 (4) the number of communities in which new video service providers intend to offer
1.18 video services, as reflected in their application;

1.19 (5) the number of communities with an incumbent video provider in which new
1.20 providers intend to offer video services;

1.21 (6) the number of communities with no incumbent video service provider in which
1.22 new video service providers intend to offer video services;

1.23 (7) the effect on video service prices in communities with an incumbent video
1.24 provider in which new video service providers offer video services;

- 2.1 (8) the effect on franchise fee revenues received by municipalities from video
2.2 service providers;
- 2.3 (9) the effect on the number of PEG channels available to communities;
- 2.4 (10) the effect on the amount of revenues received by municipalities to support the
2.5 provision of PEG programming in communities;
- 2.6 (11) the effect on the amount of PEG programming available in communities;
- 2.7 (12) the progress of new video providers in meeting any build-out requirements
2.8 in the law; and
- 2.9 (13) the effect on municipal services provided to communities by video service
2.10 providers.
- 2.11 Subd. 2. **Report.** The department shall submit the report described in subdivision
2.12 1 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house committees with
2.13 primary jurisdiction over telecommunications policy by February 1, 2009.
- 2.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.