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State of Minnesota

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-SIXTH
SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. **1149**

February 26, 2009

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor

March 23, 2009

Committee Recommendation and Adoption of Report:

To Pass as Amended

Read Second Time

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to telecommunications; modifying provisions relating to reduced rate
1.3 regulation and promotion activities; amending Minnesota Statutes 2008, sections
1.4 237.411, subdivision 2; 237.626; repealing Laws 2004, chapter 261, article 6,
1.5 section 5, as amended.

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

1.7 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 237.411, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.8 Subd. 2. **Competitive area; defined.** A "competitive area" is an exchange located:
1.9 ~~(1) in the metropolitan area extended area service toll-free calling area; or~~
1.10 ~~(2) in the cities of Duluth or St. Cloud in Minnesota.~~

1.11 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2008, section 237.626, is amended to read:

1.12 **237.626 PROMOTION ACTIVITIES.**

1.13 Subdivision 1. **Promotions.** A telephone company or telecommunications carrier
1.14 may promote the use of its services by offering a waiver of part or all of a recurring or a
1.15 nonrecurring charge, a redemption coupon, or a premium with the purchase of a service.
1.16 Section 237.09 does not apply to promotions under this section, but the customer group
1.17 to which the promotion is available must be based on reasonable distinctions among
1.18 customers. ~~No single promotion may be effective for longer than 90 days at a time. The~~
1.19 ~~benefits to a particular customer of a promotion must not extend beyond nine months.~~
1.20 The service being promoted must have a price that is above the incremental cost of the
1.21 service, including amortized cost of the promotion. A promotion may take effect the
1.22 day after the notice is filed with the commission. The notice must identify customers
1.23 to whom the promotion is available. ~~A telephone company is not required to file cost~~

2.1 ~~information except upon request of the department, the Office of the Attorney General, or~~
2.2 ~~the commission to determine if a promotion complies with applicable legal requirements.~~
2.3 ~~Within five business days of receipt of a request pursuant to this subdivision, or an order~~
2.4 ~~of the commission, the telephone company shall provide the requested cost information~~
2.5 ~~demonstrating the service being promoted has a price above the incremental cost of~~
2.6 ~~service to the Office of the Attorney General, the department, and the commission. The~~
2.7 ~~telephone company shall file this cost information with the commission soon thereafter.~~

2.8 Subd. 2. **Bundled service.** (a) A telephone company or telecommunications
2.9 carrier may offer telecommunications services subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the
2.10 commission as part of a package of services that may include goods and services other
2.11 than those subject to the commission's regulatory jurisdiction. Subject to the requirements
2.12 of this chapter and the associated rules and orders of the commission applicable to those
2.13 regulated services, a telephone company may establish the prices, terms, and conditions of
2.14 a package of services, except that:

2.15 (1) each telecommunications service subject to the regulatory jurisdiction of the
2.16 commission must be available to customers on a stand-alone basis; and

2.17 (2) at the time the packaged offering is introduced or at the time the packaged price
2.18 is subsequently changed, the packaged rate or price may not exceed the sum of the
2.19 unpackaged rates or prices for the individual service elements or services; ~~and.~~

2.20 ~~(3) in addition to the tariff requirements that apply to the telecommunications~~
2.21 ~~elements of the package, the tariff must also contain a general description of the~~
2.22 ~~nontelecommunications components of the package.~~

2.23 (b) Nothing in this subdivision is intended to extend or diminish the regulatory
2.24 authority of the commission or the department.

2.25 Subd. 3. **Promotions available for resale.** Any promotional offering lasting more
2.26 than 90 days and filed with the commission under subdivision 1 must be available to
2.27 qualifying carriers for resale. A qualifying carrier must hold a certificate of authority
2.28 from the commission and must have an approved interconnection agreement with the
2.29 company offering the promotion, the terms of which include language governing the
2.30 resale of services.

2.31 Sec. 3. **RULES SUPERSEDED.**

2.32 Any provisions of Minnesota Rules, parts 7811.2210, subpart 6, and 7812.2210,
2.33 subpart 6, that are inconsistent with the amendments made in section 2 are superseded and
2.34 are not applicable to competitive local exchange carriers.

3.1 Sec. 4. **REPEALER.**

3.2 Laws 2004, chapter 261, article 6, section 5, as amended by Laws 2005, chapter 10,
3.3 article 1, section 80, is repealed.

3.4 Sec. 5. **EFFECTIVE DATE.**

3.5 Sections 1 to 4 are effective the day following final enactment.

APPENDIX
Repealed Minnesota Session Laws: H1149-1

Laws 2004, chapter 261, article 6, section 5, as amended by Laws 2005, chapter 10, article 1, section 80

Sec. 80. Laws 2004, chapter 261, article 6, section 5, is amended to read:

Sec. 5. **EXPIRATION.**

Section 1 expires August 1, 2010.