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Nauman  
4/5/17

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 80(L&C)**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE**

**Offered:  
Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): SENATOR COSTELLO**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to telecommunications services for certain disabled subscribers; and**  
2 **providing for an effective date."**

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 **\* Section 1.** AS 42.05.296 is amended to read:

5       **Sec. 42.05.296. Telecommunications [TELEPHONE] services for certain**  
6 **disabled [IMPAIRED] subscribers.** (a) The commission shall adopt regulations to  
7 require **telecommunications [TELEPHONE] utilities** to provide service to  
8 **subscribers who are deaf, hard of hearing, and speech disabled [IMPAIRED**  
9 **SUBSCRIBERS]** that permits the subscriber to communicate by **one or more**  
10 **telecommunications devices [TELEPHONE]** with persons of normal hearing and that  
11 makes available reasonable access of all phases of public **telecommunications**  
12 **[TELEPHONE] service to subscribers of telecommunications services who are**  
13 **deaf, hard of hearing, and speech disabled [IMPAIRED TELEPHONE**  
14 **SUBSCRIBERS].** The regulations must provide for cost recovery through surcharges

1 added to the [BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE] rate for each telecommunications  
2 service. The commission shall hold hearings to determine the most cost-effective  
3 method of providing this service.

4 (b) A telecommunications service [TELEPHONE] subscriber is eligible for  
5 the service required by (a) of this section if the subscriber is a person who is certified  
6 as deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled [IMPAIRED] by a licensed physician, a  
7 speech-language pathologist licensed under AS 08.11, an audiologist, or the  
8 Department of Health and Social Services or if the subscriber is an organization that  
9 represents or has a principal purpose to provide services to persons who are  
10 [REPRESENTING THE] deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled [IMPAIRED] as  
11 determined by the commission.

12 \* **Sec. 2.** This Act takes effect July 1, 2017.