



# LAWS OF ALASKA

2018

**Source**

HCS CSSB 80(L&C)

**Chapter No.**

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**AN ACT**

Relating to telecommunications services for certain disabled subscribers; and providing for an effective date.

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

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1



AN ACT

1 Relating to telecommunications services for certain disabled subscribers; and providing for an  
2 effective date.

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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, 2018.