

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

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

**Offered:****Referred:****Sponsor(s): SENATORS COSTELLO, Stevens, Micciche, Bishop****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       [u]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.