

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2012 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version **SB 138**
 Fiscal Note Number _____
 () Publish Date _____

Identifier (file name) SB138-LAW-CIV-01-27-12
 Title An Act relating to charges on bills of telecommunications carriers.
 Sponsor Senators Wielechowski, Davis, and Egan
 Requester (S) Labor & Commerce
 Dept. Affected Law
 Appropriation Civil
 Allocation Commercial and Fair Business
 OMB Component Number 2717

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	FY13 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY13 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY13	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18
Personal Services							
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants, Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUND SOURCE		(Thousands of Dollars)					
1002	Federal Receipts						
1003	GF Match						
1004	GF						
1005	GF/Prgm (DGF)						
1037	GF/MH (UGF)						
1178	temp code (UGF)						
TOTAL		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS							
Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

CHANGE IN REVENUES							
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Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY12) operating costs _____ (separate supplemental appropriation required)
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY13) costs _____ (separate capital appropriation required)
 (discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version (if initial version, please note as such)

Not applicable, initial version.

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 Approved by Richard Svobodny, Acting Attorney General
Department of Law

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 Date/Time 1/27/12 4:30 PM
 Date 1/27/2012

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BILL NO. SB 138

Analysis

This bill adds a section to AS 42.05 requiring telecommunications carriers to clearly identify a third party's charges to a customer's bill. It prohibits a third party from charging goods or services on the carrier's bill unless the third party provides to the carrier a description of the product or service, the amount charged, the name of the entity providing the service, and a no-cost means of contacting the entity to resolve billing disputes. The bill also adds a section to the Consumer Protection Act prohibiting a vendor from charging a customer's telephone bill, with certain exceptions including itemized billing in compliance with AS 42.05.715 for the sale of goods or services governed by an approved tariff, and for goods or services for which the carrier has received verification of the customer's authorization for the charge.

Violations of this law would be violations of the Consumer Protection Act and enforceable by the Attorney General. It is expected that enforcement activities would be absorbed within existing resources.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the Department of Law.