

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2287

4
5 By: Representatives Milligan, Agee, Bevis, Bolin, Cleveland, Cowling, Eason, Hathorn, Hickinbotham,
6 Jackson, Jacobs, G. Jeffress, McMellon, Oglesby, Parks, Prater, Scroggin, Seawel, Stovall, Verkamp,
7 Weaver, Wood

For An Act To Be Entitled

11 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TOLL CALLING PLAN IN EXCHANGES
12 WITH CUSTOMERS WHO ARE UNABLE TO CALL THE COUNTY SEAT
13 WITHOUT MAKING A TOLL CALL; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

15 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A TOLL CALLING PLAN
16 IN EXCHANGES WITH CUSTOMERS WHO ARE
17 UNABLE TO CALL THE COUNTY SEAT WITHOUT
18 MAKING A TOLL CALL.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

24 SECTION 1. (a) The customers in any exchange of an eligible
25 telecommunications carrier in Arkansas who cannot make a telephone call to a
26 telephone number in a county seat within the county in which the customer is
27 located without making a toll call shall receive a special toll calling plan
28 and every access line within the exchange shall receive the plan.

29 (b)(1) The calling plan shall provide sixty (60) minutes per monthly
30 billing cycle of toll free calling within the Local Access Transport Area.

31 (2) To assist in paying for the plan, a fee of one dollar
32 (\$1.00) per monthly billing cycle shall be added to the customer bill for
33 each access line.

34 (c)(1) The plan shall be provided by eligible telecommunications
35 carriers within the exchange that provide basic local exchange service to the
36 access lines.

1 (2) The eligible telecommunications carrier may provide the plan
2 through its own facilities or may provide the plan through an agreement with
3 another certified carrier.

4 (d) The eligible telecommunications carrier shall not owe any Arkansas
5 intraLATA carrier common line pool charges on any minutes of use in the plan.

6 (e)(1)(A) The eligible telecommunications carrier shall receive eight
7 cents (8¢) per minute of use for all minutes used in the plan from the
8 Arkansas Universal Service Fund.

9 (B)(i) Upon demonstrating additional costs for providing
10 the plan the Arkansas Public Service Commission may increase the rate based
11 on the demonstrated costs.

12 (ii) The increase may be on a state-wide basis or
13 may be on a company-wide basis upon application by the company and
14 demonstration of the need.

15 (iii) The rate shall be set at an amount to pay all
16 costs associated with the plan and an additional one cent (1¢) per minute
17 above the cost per minute of use.

18 (2)(A) The Arkansas Universal Service Fund shall reimburse the
19 eligible telecommunications carrier on a monthly basis, paid three (3) months
20 in arrears, for the amount the eligible telecommunications carrier is
21 entitled to receive under this subsection (e).

22 (B) The toll call plan shall not be used to decrease other
23 reimbursement from the Arkansas Universal Service Fund.

24 (3) The eligible telecommunications carrier shall be obligated
25 to pay all access charges and other expenses incurred from the amount it is
26 entitled to receive under this subsection (e).

27 (f) The Arkansas Public Service Commission shall administer this act
28 and shall promulgate rules and regulations on an expedited basis as needed to
29 implement and administer the plan.

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