

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1734

**Introduced by Committee on Utilities and Commerce (Wright
(Chair), Calderon, Canciamilla, Cardenas, Diaz, Nation, Papan,
Reyes, and Wesson)**

March 26, 2001

An act to amend Section 709 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to telecommunications.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1734, as introduced, Committee on Utilities and Commerce. Telecommunications services.

Existing law, the Public Utilities Act, sets forth the findings and declarations of the Legislature that a policy for telecommunications in California is to encourage the development and deployment of new technologies and the equitable provision of services in a way that efficiently meets consumer need and encourages the availability of a wide choice of state-of-the-art services.

This bill, in addition, would refer to encouraging the development and deployment of the infrastructure needed to support the new technologies.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 709 of the Public Utilities Code is
2 amended to read:

1 709. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the
2 policies for telecommunications in California are as follows:

3 (a) To continue our universal service commitment by assuring
4 the continued affordability and widespread availability of
5 high-quality telecommunications service to all Californians.

6 (b) To encourage the development and deployment of new
7 technologies *and the infrastructure required to support them*, and
8 the equitable provision of services in a way ~~which~~ *that* efficiently
9 meets consumer need and encourages the ubiquitous availability
10 of a wide choice of state-of-the-art services.

11 (c) To promote economic growth, job creation, and the
12 substantial social benefits that will result from the rapid
13 implementation of advanced information and communications
14 technologies by adequate long-term investment in the necessary
15 infrastructure.

16 (d) To promote lower prices, broader consumer choice, and
17 avoidance of anticompetitive conduct.

18 (e) To remove the barriers to open and competitive markets and
19 promote fair product and price competition in a way that
20 encourages greater efficiency, lower prices, and more consumer
21 choice.

