

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2003

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

**No. 909**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Reyes**

February 20, 2003

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An act to add Section 2898 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to telecommunications.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 909, as amended, Reyes. Telecommunications.

Existing law empowers the Public Utilities Commission to regulate telecommunications services. The Telecommunications Customer Service Act of 1993 requires the commission to require telephone corporations to provide certain customer services to telecommunications customers, and authorizes the commission to require telephone corporations to provide additional services.

This bill would require that every incumbent local exchange carrier and competitive local exchange carrier provide customers electing to purchase a service package for both local and long-distance service, a breakdown separately showing ~~charges for local and long-distance services~~ *the charge for local telephone service and usage for long-distance service*, as part of their regular billings. Because violation of an order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime under existing law, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the  
2 following:

3 (a) The telecommunications industry is evolving towards  
4 offering to consumers various package options, which include  
5 local, regional, and long-distance service.

6 (b) Consumers have a right to make intelligent and informed  
7 decisions relative to what telecommunications services they wish  
8 to purchase.

9 (c) Consumers are able to make intelligent and informed  
10 decisions relative to what telecommunications services they wish  
11 to purchase, only when they are able to determine how much they  
12 are being charged for local and long distance calling.

13 SEC. 2. Section 2898 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to  
14 read:

15 2898. Every incumbent local exchange carrier and  
16 competitive local exchange carrier shall provide, to customers  
17 electing to purchase any service package that includes both local  
18 and long-distance service, a breakdown separately showing  
19 ~~charges for local and long-distance services~~ *the charge for local*  
20 *telephone service and usage for long-distance service*, as part of  
21 their regular billings.

22 SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to  
23 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because  
24 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school  
25 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or  
26 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty  
27 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of  
28 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within



1 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California  
2 Constitution.

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