

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 30, 2000

SENATE BILL

No. 1741

Introduced by Senator Bowen
(Coauthor: Senator O'Connell)

February 23, 2000

An act to add Section 7943 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to telecommunications.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1741, as amended, Bowen. Telecommunications: technology specific area codes.

Under federal law, the Federal Communications Commission has delegated authority to the Public Utilities Commission to regulate area codes within the state subject to specific guidelines. ~~One of those~~ *The guidelines is that the state cannot approve prohibit an area code based on specific technology and require 10 digit dialing for all telephone calls within and between all area codes covered by an area code overlay.*

This bill would require the Public Utilities Commission to request authority from the Federal Communications Commission to require telephone corporations to establish technology specific area codes based on wireless and data communications *and to permit 7 digit dialing within the affected area codes.* This bill would also prohibit the Public Utilities Commission from approving new area code splits or overlays *unless a telephone utilization study has been performed and all reasonable telephone number conservation has been implemented,* a technology specific

area code had been established in the affected area, *if authorized*, and further area code relief is warranted.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 7943 is added to the Public
2 Utilities Code, to read:
3 7943. (a) On or before March 31, 2001, the
4 commission shall request that the Federal
5 Communications Commission grant authority for the
6 commission to order telephone corporations to assign
7 telephone numbers dedicated to wireless and data usage
8 to a separate area code *and to permit seven digit dialing*
9 *within the affected area codes.*
10 (b) *Before approving any new area code, the*
11 *commission shall first perform a telephone utilization*
12 *study and implement all reasonable telephone number*
13 *conservation measures.*
14 (c) If the commission receives the grant of authority
15 set forth in subdivision (a), the commission may not
16 approve an area code split or an area code overlay unless
17 *it has complied with subdivision (b) and both of the*
18 *following occur:*
19 (1) The commission has previously ordered that
20 telephone numbers dedicated to wireless and data usage
21 in the proposed area code split or overlay be assigned to
22 a separate area code.
23 (2) Further area code relief is warranted.

