

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 25, 2000

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. The guidelines 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. *The bill would also prohibit the commission from implementing any authority granted by the Federal Communications Commission in a manner that impairs number portability.*

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 *(1) The commission has utilized the authority granted*
24 *by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to*
25 *subdivision (a).*

26 (2) Further area code relief is warranted.

27 *(d) The commission may not implement any authority*
28 *granted by the Federal Communications Commission*

1 *pursuant to subdivision (a), in a manner that impairs the*
2 *ability of a customer to have number portability.*

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