

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R8611 DWS-F

S.B. 1251
By: West
Economic Development
4/9/1999
As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, under Texas law, a provider of basic local telephone service may disconnect that service for nonpayment of long distance charges. This bill would prohibit a provider of basic local telephone service from disconnecting that service for nonpayment of long distance charges.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1251 prohibits a provider of basic local telephone service from disconnecting that service for nonpayment of long distance charges.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 55A, Utilities Code, by adding Section 55.012, as follows:

Sec. 55.012. LIMITATIONS ON DISCONTINUANCE OF BASIC LOCAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE. Prohibits a provider of basic local telecommunications service from discontinuing that service because of nonpayment by a residential customer of charges for long distance service. Provides that the Public Utility Commission has all jurisdiction necessary to enforce this section, notwithstanding Sections 52.102 and 52.152.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.