

HOUSE BILL No. 4155

February 14, 1989, Introduced by Reps. Gubow, DeMars, Stallworth and Hoffman and referred to the Committee on Public Utilities.

A bill to amend the title and section 1 of Act No. 72 of the Public Acts of 1883, entitled as amended

"An act relating to telegraph and telephone companies, to regulate the use and rental of telephones in this state; and to provide for a civil fine for a violation of this act,"

being section 484.51 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Section 1. The title and section 1 of Act No. 72 of the
2 Public Acts of 1883, being section 484.51 of the Michigan
3 Compiled Laws, are amended to read as follows:

4 TITLE

5 An act relating to SERVICES PROVIDED BY telegraph and tele-
6 phone companies; ~~, to regulate the use and rental of telephones~~
7 ~~in this state,~~ and to provide for a civil fine for a violation
8 of this act.

1 Sec. 1. A telegraph or telephone company, or person, firm,
2 or corporation engaged in the business of ~~leasing telephones to~~
3 ~~the public or~~ supplying the public with telegraph services or
4 telephones and telephonic service, or operating a telegraph or
5 telephone exchange, shall receive and transmit without discrimi-
6 nation messages from and for any other company, or person, upon
7 payment of tender of the usual or customary charges. Upon pay-
8 ment or tender of the usual or customary charges, ~~or usual or~~
9 ~~customary rental sum,~~ a telegraph or telephone company, or
10 person, firm, or corporation engaged in the business of ~~leasing~~
11 ~~telephones to the public, or~~ supplying the public with telegraph
12 services or telephones and telephonic service, or operating a
13 telegraph or telephone exchange, shall furnish without unreason-
14 able delay, without discrimination, and without further or addi-
15 tional charge to the person, firm, or corporation applying for
16 service, including all telegraph companies, ~~a telephone or tele-~~
17 ~~phones, with all of the proper or necessary wires and fixtures,~~
18 ~~and the use of the telephones, wires, and fixtures, as well as~~
19 connection with the central office or telephone exchange, if
20 desired, and shall connect the telephone of the person, firm, or
21 corporation with the telephone of any other person, firm, or cor-
22 poration having connection with their service, or a connecting
23 exchange, or central office, whenever requested, without regard
24 to the character of the message to be transmitted, if it is not
25 obscene or profane. Where party lines are used by a telephone
26 company in supplying telephonic service to its users, the company
27 shall not supply telephonic service to a house of ill repute,

1 assignation house or any other similar place under police
2 surveillance, or to a saloon, over the same party line which
3 serves a private residence with telephone connections. A com-
4 pany, person, firm, or corporation neglecting or refusing to
5 comply with this act ~~—~~ shall forfeit all right to transact a
6 telegraph or telephone business in this state, and may be
7 enjoined from conducting business and ~~from leasing telephones to~~
8 ~~the public,~~ from supplying the public with telegraph services
9 ~~or telephones~~ and telephonic service, and from operating a
10 telegraph or telephone exchange, by an action filed in a court of
11 competent jurisdiction, by a person, firm, or corporation
12 injured, interested, or denied the rights given in this act. A
13 person, firm, or corporation neglecting or refusing to comply
14 with this act ~~—~~ shall be fined a civil fine of not less than
15 \$25.00, or more than \$100.00, for each day the neglect or refusal
16 continues, 1/2 of the civil fine collected shall be paid to the
17 person, firm, or corporation bringing the complaint, as damages.