

ORIGINAL SENATE  
FILE NO. SF0019

ENROLLED ACT NO. 7, SENATE

SIXTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING  
2019 GENERAL SESSION

AN ACT relating to telecommunications; extending the Wyoming Telecommunications Act's sunset date; conforming provisions related to the Wyoming universal service fund alternative distribution option and the benchmark price for essential local exchange services; and providing for an effective date.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

**Section 1.** W.S. 37-15-101(b) and 37-15-501(g) and (h) are amended to read:

**37-15-101. Short title; sunset.**

(b) This chapter is repealed effective July 1, ~~2019~~ 2023.

**37-15-501. Universal service fund created; contributions; administration.**

(g) A telecommunications company that undertakes the requirements set forth in this subsection may make a one-time, irrevocable before July 1, ~~2019~~ 2023, election in writing to the commission to receive Wyoming universal service funds pursuant to this subsection rather than pursuant to subsection (d) of this section. In order to receive funds pursuant to this subsection, the company shall provide essential local exchange service, or its functional equivalent, upon reasonable request throughout the local exchange area of a rural incumbent local exchange carrier, as defined by the federal communications commission on January 1, 2015, at a price not exceeding the price benchmark established in subsection (h) of this section. A telecommunications company which elects to receive Wyoming universal service funds pursuant to this subsection shall receive funds to the extent that its loop costs, as reflected

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in the company's most recent annual filing of unseparated loop costs filed with the Universal Service Administration Company, exceed the company's most recent annual federal universal service funds receipts and annual local revenues. In calculating annual local revenues the commission shall utilize the imputed price benchmark established in subsection (h) of this section. If an otherwise qualified company elects to receive Wyoming universal service funds pursuant to this subsection, but does not file an annual unseparated loop cost report with the Universal Service Administration Company, it shall file the equivalent information with the commission.

(h) The price benchmark shall be thirty dollars (\$30.00) until July 1, ~~2019~~2023 unless otherwise adjusted by the commission pursuant to this subsection. On and after July 1, 2019, the commission shall review the price benchmark one (1) time every four (4) years and, after review, shall adjust the benchmark as necessary to assure that it approximates one hundred thirty percent (130%) of the weighted statewide average essential local exchange service price. The commission may change the price benchmark at any time if, after notice and opportunity for a hearing, the commission determines that the price benchmark does not approximate one hundred thirty percent (130%) of the weighted statewide average essential local exchange service price and that the price benchmark should be adjusted by ten percent (10%) or more.

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**Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution.

(END)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

TIME APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this act originated in the Senate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk