

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3125
Version: First Engrossment
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Subject: Telecommunications
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DATE: February 14, 2002

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Overview

This bill clarifies the authority of the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to remedy inadequate or discriminatory service. It also makes technical changes to the state's telecommunications access for communications-impaired persons ("TACIP").

Section

- 1 **PUC authority.** Clarifies that the authority of the PUC to make any just and reasonable order to remedy inadequate or discriminatory service or practice includes the authority to impose self-executing or automatic remedies and penalties.
- & 44 **Qualified vendor.** Eliminates a preference in favor of choosing a local consumer group to provide telecommunication relay services, and specifies that the commissioner of commerce may select any "qualified vendor that serves communication-impaired persons." Section 3 also requires that the qualified vendor selected must operate the relay service within the state.
- 3 **Fund established.** Changes the name of the fund in the state treasury, from the "telecommunication access for communication-impaired persons" fund to the "telecommunications access Minnesota fund."