

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 841**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Buchanan**

February 17, 2011

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An act to amend Section 270 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to telecommunications.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 841, as introduced, Buchanan. Telecommunications: universal service.

Existing law, the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, establishes a program of cooperative federalism for the regulation of telecommunications to attain the goal of local competition, while implementing specific, predictable, and sufficient federal and state mechanisms to preserve and advance universal service, consistent with certain universal service principles.

Existing law establishes six funds in the State Treasury through which the state's universal service programs are funded. Existing law requires that moneys in the funds may only be expended for specified purposes and upon appropriation in the annual Budget Act or upon supplemental appropriation.

This bill would make a nonsubstantive, technical change to this requirement.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.

State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 270 of the Public Utilities Code is  
 2 amended to read:  
 3 270. (a) The following funds are hereby created in the State  
 4 Treasury:  
 5 (1) The California High-Cost Fund-A Administrative Committee  
 6 Fund.  
 7 (2) The California High-Cost Fund-B Administrative Committee  
 8 Fund.  
 9 (3) The Universal Lifeline Telephone Service Trust  
 10 Administrative Committee Fund.  
 11 (4) The Deaf and Disabled Telecommunications Program  
 12 Administrative Committee Fund.  
 13 (5) The Payphone Service Providers Committee Fund.  
 14 (6) The California Teleconnect Fund Administrative Committee  
 15 Fund.  
 16 (7) The California Advanced Services Fund.  
 17 (b) Moneys in the funds are the proceeds of rates and are held  
 18 in trust for the benefit of ratepayers and to compensate telephone  
 19 corporations for their costs of providing universal service. Moneys  
 20 in the funds ~~may~~ shall only be expended pursuant to this chapter  
 21 and upon appropriation in the annual Budget Act or upon  
 22 supplemental appropriation.  
 23 (c) Moneys in each fund may not be appropriated, or in any  
 24 other manner transferred or otherwise diverted, to any other fund  
 25 or entity, except as provided in Sections 19325 and 19325.1 of the  
 26 Education Code.

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