

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 19, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 15, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 30, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 14, 2016

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 1, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2570**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Member Quirk**

February 19, 2016

---

---

An act to add Section 878.5 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to telecommunications.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2570, as amended, Quirk. Telecommunications: universal service: reimbursement claims.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including telephone corporations. The Moore Universal Telephone Service Act establishes the Universal Lifeline Telephone Service program in order to provide low-income households with access to affordable basic residential telephone service. The act requires that a lifeline telephone service subscriber be provided with one lifeline subscription, as defined by the commission, at his or her principal place of residence.

~~This bill would prohibit the commission from reimbursing a telephone corporation for a reimbursement claim for providing lifeline service to a new subscriber who enrolls for service with the telephone corporation~~

~~if the subscriber enrolled for lifeline service with another telephone corporation within the previous 60 days; require the commission to adopt a portability freeze rule for the lifeline program by January 15, 2017, and would require the commission to consider including certain features as part of the rule.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 878.5 is added to the Public Utilities  
2 Code, to read:

3 878.5. The commission shall adopt a portability freeze rule for  
4 the lifeline program by January 15, 2017. The commission shall  
5 consider including all of the following in the rule:

6 (a) A 60-day duration of the portability freeze.  
7 (b) A period of time when a subscriber would be able to  
8 terminate lifeline service without penalty, similar to provisions  
9 established in Section 4.13.5 of commission Decision 14-01-036  
10 (January 16, 2014), Decision Adopting Revisions to Modernize  
11 and Expand the California Lifeline Program.

12 (c) A requirement that the administrator of the lifeline program  
13 provide a telephone corporation providing lifeline service with  
14 real-time information concerning whether a subscriber has  
15 enrolled with another telephone corporation during the period of  
16 the portability freeze adopted by the commission pursuant to this  
17 section and, if the subscriber enrolled during this period, the date  
18 of enrollment.

19 ~~SECTION 1. Section 878.5 is added to the Public Utilities~~  
20 ~~Code, to read:~~

21 ~~878.5. (a) The commission shall not reimburse a telephone~~  
22 ~~corporation for a reimbursement claim for providing lifeline service~~  
23 ~~to a new subscriber who enrolls for service with the telephone~~  
24 ~~corporation if the subscriber enrolled in lifeline service with~~  
25 ~~another telephone corporation within the previous 60 days.~~

26 ~~(b) Nothing in this section shall preclude a subscriber from~~  
27 ~~terminating wireless lifeline service within 14 days of service~~

- 1 ~~activation without incurring any charges, including an early~~
- 2 ~~termination fee, as authorized pursuant to Rulemaking 11-03-113.~~

O