

1 5811-S AAS 3/15/99

2  
3 SSB 5811 - S AMD - 190  
4 By Senator Brown

5 ADOPTED 3/15/99

6 On page 1, after line 10, insert the following:

7 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** Universal telephone service, which is the  
8 wide availability of basic telephone service at reasonably affordable  
9 rates, has long been the policy of the state of Washington and is  
10 essential to the economic well-being of the state. In order to comply  
11 with the 1996 federal telecommunications act, the state must modify its  
12 universal service program so as to meet the twin goals, under the  
13 federal act, of competition and reasonable rates for basic phone  
14 service. In making the transition to a more competitive  
15 telecommunications market, the legislature intends to minimize the  
16 shifting of costs among classes of customers, so that no class of  
17 customers bears a disproportionately adverse change in its share of  
18 universal service costs."

19 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively and correct any  
20 internal references accordingly.

21 SSB 5811 - S AMD - 192  
22 By Senator Brown

23 ADOPTED 3/15/99

24 On page 3, line 26, after "fund." strike "Every" and insert "Not  
25 earlier than July 1, 2000, every"

26 On page 4, line 19, after "(1)" strike "The" and insert "Not  
27 earlier than July 1, 2000, the"

1 **SSB 5811** - S AMD - 193

2 By Senator Eide

3 ADOPTED 3/15/99

4 On page 3, after line 36, insert the following:

5 "(4) Any carrier that discloses on its customers' bills the effect  
6 of its contribution to the fund shall also disclose the effect, whether  
7 direct or indirect, on customers' bills of reductions in rates by  
8 eligible telecommunications carriers to offset the additional universal  
9 service support."

10 Renumber the remaining subsection consecutively and correct any  
11 internal references accordingly.

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**EFFECT:** Adds intent language explaining why universal service reform is needed, and expressing the legislature's intent that no customer class bear a disproportionate burden, in making the transition to a more competitive market.

**EFFECT:** Implementation of the universal service fund is delayed until July 1, 2000.

**EFFECT:** Companies choosing to disclose universal service contributions on a customer bill must also disclose the offsetting rate reductions.