

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 486—COMMITTEE  
ON COMMERCE AND LABOR

MARCH 25, 2013

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Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to telecommunication providers. (BDR 58-970)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.  
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

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AN ACT relating to telecommunication providers; authorizing certain telecommunication providers to apply to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada for relief from the obligations and status of a provider of last resort; revising certain provisions relating to the regulation of Internet Protocol-enabled service or Voice over Internet Protocol service; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest:**

Existing law requires certain telecommunication providers to provide basic network service and business line service to any person requesting such service. (NRS 704.6878) **Section 2** of this bill authorizes such a provider to apply to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada to be relieved of its duty to provide such service when certain alternative services are available. **Section 2** additionally sets forth certain requirements for notice, hearings and consumer sessions related to an application. **Section 2** authorizes the Commission to require a telecommunication provider to provide service to a customer under certain circumstances.

Under existing law, the Commission is prohibited from regulating any broadband service, including imposing any requirements relating to the terms, conditions, rates or availability of broadband service. (NRS 704.684) **Section 3** of this bill, with exceptions, prohibits any state agency or political subdivision of the State from regulating any Internet Protocol-enabled service or Voice over Internet Protocol service. **Section 3** preserves certain authority of the Commission to regulate telecommunication providers under provisions of federal and state law.

**Sections 6, 7 and 18-34** of this bill remove obsolete references to telegraph lines and telegraph equipment.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN  
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** Chapter 704 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

**Sec. 2. 1.** *A competitive supplier that is a provider of last resort may file an application with the Commission to be relieved, in whole or in part, of its obligations and status as a provider of last resort in an area where alternative voice service is provided by:*

*(a) At least:*

*(1) One provider that utilizes a wireline technology, is not an affiliate of the provider of last resort and is capable of providing alternative voice service to the entire area for which relief is sought; and*

*(2) One provider that utilizes any other technology and is capable of providing alternative voice service to the entire area for which relief is sought;*

*(b) On or after June 1, 2015, two or more providers that utilize a wireless technology and that are capable of providing alternative voice service to the entire area for which relief is sought; or*

*(c) On or after June 1, 2015, three or more providers that utilize any technology and that are capable of providing alternative voice service to the entire area for which relief is sought.*

**2.** *An application filed pursuant to subsection 1 must include:*

*(a) A map of the entire area for which relief is sought that identifies separately each provider of alternative voice service which is intended to satisfy the requirements of subsection 1. The map must be of sufficient detail to identify the exact boundary by street of the entire area for which relief is sought.*

*(b) A draft of the notice which the applicant intends to provide pursuant to subsection 4.*

**3.** *The Commission shall approve or deny an application filed pursuant to subsection 1 not later than 180 days after the application is filed with the Commission. The Commission shall not approve an application unless the Commission determines that the applicant has satisfied the requirements of this section. The Commission may hold a hearing to determine whether sufficient alternative voice service exists in an area for which relief is sought by an applicant.*

**4.** *An applicant shall, not later than 30 days after filing an application pursuant to subsection 1, provide written notice:*

*(a) To each current customer of the applicant located within the area for which relief is sought. The notice may be included in*



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1 a bill from the applicant to the customer or included in a special  
2 mailing, other than a promotional mailing, which states that  
3 important information is enclosed. If a customer has elected to  
4 receive his or her bill in an electronic form, such notice must be  
5 provided to the customer electronically in the same manner in  
6 which he or she receives a bill from the applicant.

7 (b) To each public safety answering point which is located  
8 within the area for which relief is sought.

9 5. The written notice provided to each customer pursuant to  
10 paragraph (a) of subsection 4 must include, in clear and  
11 comprehensive language that is understandable to an ordinary  
12 layperson:

13 (a) A statement that the applicant has applied to the  
14 Commission for relief of its obligations as a provider of last resort  
15 in the area in which the customer resides.

16 (b) A statement that a consumer session will be conducted by  
17 the Commission in accordance with subsection 7 at which the  
18 customer may make inquiries or comments concerning the  
19 application.

20 (c) A statement that the Commission will issue a public notice  
21 identifying the time, date and location of the consumer session.

22 (d) Any additional information required by the Commission.

23 6. A competitive supplier who files an application for relief  
24 pursuant to subsection 1 shall conduct at least one meeting  
25 concerning the application, which must include the following  
26 parties:

27 (a) The Commission;

28 (b) The Consumer's Advocate;

29 (c) Representatives from each public safety answering point  
30 that is located within the area for which relief is sought; and

31 (d) Each local law enforcement agency whose jurisdiction  
32 includes, in whole or in part, the area for which relief is sought.

33 7. Not later than 120 days after receiving an application filed  
34 pursuant to subsection 1, the Commission shall, in collaboration  
35 with the applicant, schedule and conduct at least one consumer  
36 session in each county in which is located, in whole or in part, any  
37 area for which relief is sought under the application. The  
38 Commission shall provide notice of the consumer session in  
39 accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 703.320.

40 8. A competitive supplier that is relieved of its obligation and  
41 status as a provider of last resort pursuant to this section shall not  
42 apply for, and is not entitled to receive, any money from the fund  
43 to maintain the availability of telephone service for any area for  
44 which relief has been granted pursuant to this section, except for



1 *money for the provision of lifeline service, as the term is defined in*  
2 *NRS 707.450.*

3 *9. If the Commission issues an order approving an*  
4 *application for relief pursuant to this section, the relief granted by*  
5 *such approval does not affect or modify any obligation of an*  
6 *incumbent local exchange carrier pursuant to any applicable*  
7 *federal law or regulation.*

8 *10. A competitive supplier that is an incumbent local*  
9 *exchange carrier and receives, on or before the effective date of*  
10 *this act, full or partial relief from its obligations as a provider of*  
11 *last resort pursuant to NRS 704.6878 shall be deemed to be fully*  
12 *released from any obligation as a provider of last resort for the*  
13 *area for which relief was granted on or before the effective date of*  
14 *this act.*

15 *11. Except as otherwise provided in this section, any relief*  
16 *granted pursuant to this section does not impose any obligation*  
17 *upon a provider of alternative voice service in the area for which*  
18 *relief was granted.*

19 *12. The Commission may declare that an emergency exists in*  
20 *any area in which alternative voice service is not available and*  
21 *where a competitive supplier has been granted relief from its*  
22 *obligations as a provider of last resort pursuant to this section. If*  
23 *the Commission declares an emergency pursuant to this*  
24 *subsection, the Commission may:*

25 *(a) Take any steps necessary to protect the health, safety and*  
26 *welfare of the affected residents or businesses and may expedite*  
27 *the availability of alternative voice service to the affected residents*  
28 *or businesses.*

29 *(b) Utilize the fund to maintain the availability of telephone*  
30 *service to ensure that any affected resident or business has access*  
31 *to alternative voice service.*

32 *(c) Issue an order imposing on a provider of alternative voice*  
33 *service one or more obligations, including, without limitation, the*  
34 *obligation to maintain adequate and reliable service for a specified*  
35 *period, but such obligations may be imposed only to the extent that*  
36 *the provider receives money from the fund to maintain the*  
37 *availability of telephone service relating to the provision of service*  
38 *pursuant to the order issued by the Commission pursuant to this*  
39 *paragraph.*

40 *13. If, as a result of the approval by the Commission of an*  
41 *application filed pursuant to subsection 1, a residential customer*  
42 *does not have access to telephone service, including alternative*  
43 *voice service, the customer may, on or before May 31, 2016, file a*  
44 *request for service with the Commission. Upon receipt of a*  
45 *request, the Commission shall investigate whether such service is*



1 available to the customer. If the Commission determines that  
2 service is not available, the Commission may order the competitive  
3 supplier that received relief pursuant to this section to provide  
4 service to the residential customer for a period specified by the  
5 Commission. If a competitive supplier is ordered to provide service  
6 to a residential customer pursuant to this subsection, the  
7 competitive supplier may satisfy its obligation pursuant to this  
8 subsection by providing an alternative voice service as provided in  
9 NRS 704.68881.

10 14. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 12 and 13, a  
11 provider of alternative voice service that is not a provider of last  
12 resort, or a competitive supplier that has been relieved of its  
13 obligations as a provider of last resort, is not required to assume  
14 the obligations of a provider of last resort.

15 15. As used in this section:

16 (a) "Alternative voice service" means a retail voice service  
17 made available through any technology or service arrangement  
18 other than satellite service that provides:

19 (1) Voice-grade access to the public switched telephone  
20 network; and

21 (2) Access to emergency 911 service.

22 (b) "Public safety answering point" has the meaning ascribed  
23 to it in NRS 707.500.

24 **Sec. 3.** 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a  
25 state agency or political subdivision of the State may not, directly  
26 or indirectly, regulate the rates charged for, service or contract  
27 terms for, conditions for, or requirements for entry for Internet  
28 Protocol-enabled service or Voice over Internet Protocol service.

29 2. The provisions of subsection 1 must not be construed to:

30 (a) Affect or limit the enforcement of criminal or civil laws,  
31 including, without limitation, laws concerning consumer  
32 protection and unfair or deceptive trade practices, that apply  
33 generally to the conduct of business;

34 (b) Affect, mandate or prohibit:

35 (1) The assessment of taxes, fees or surcharges which are  
36 of general applicability or which are otherwise authorized by  
37 statute; or

38 (2) The levy and collection of the assessment required by  
39 NRS 704.033 from a provider of voice over Internet Protocol  
40 service that has a certificate of public convenience and necessity;

41 (c) Affect or modify:

42 (1) Any right or obligation of any telecommunication  
43 provider, or the authority granted to the Commission pursuant to  
44 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252, including, without limitation, any  
45 authority granted to the Commission to address or affect the



1 *resolution of disputes regarding reciprocal compensation and*  
2 *interconnection;*

3 (2) *Any obligation relating to the provision of video service*  
4 *by any person pursuant to chapter 711 of NRS;*

5 (3) *Any applicable wholesale tariff; or*

6 (4) *Any authority granted to the Commission pursuant to*  
7 *47 U.S.C. §§ 214(e) and 254(f).*

8 3. *As used in this section:*

9 (a) *"Internet Protocol-enabled service" means any service,*  
10 *functionality or application which uses Internet Protocol or a*  
11 *successor protocol that enables an end-user to send or receive*  
12 *voice, data or video communications. The term does not include*  
13 *Voice over Internet Protocol service.*

14 (b) *"Voice over Internet Protocol service" means any service*  
15 *that:*

16 (1) *Enables real-time, two-way voice communication*  
17 *originating from or terminating at the user's location in Internet*  
18 *Protocol or a successor protocol;*

19 (2) *Uses a broadband connection from the user's location;*  
20 *and*

21 (3) *Permits a user to receive a call that originates on the*  
22 *public switched telephone network and to terminate a call to the*  
23 *public switched telephone network.*

24 Sec. 4. (Deleted by amendment.)

25 Sec. 4.5. NRS 704.006 is hereby amended to read as follows:

26 704.006 "Basic network service" means the provision of stand-  
27 alone telephone service furnished to a residential customer ~~through~~  
28 ~~the customer's primary residential line as the only service~~ that:

29 1. Is not:

30 (a) Part of a package of services;

31 (b) Sold in a promotion;

32 (c) Purchased pursuant to a contract; or

33 (d) Otherwise offered at a discounted price; and

34 2. Provides to the customer:

35 (a) Voice-grade access to the public switched telephone network  
36 ; ~~with a minimum bandwidth of 300 to 3,000 hertz;~~

37 (b) ~~Dual tone multifrequency signaling and single party service;~~

38 ~~(c)~~ Access to:

39 (1) ~~Operator services;~~

40 ~~(2)~~ Telephone relay services;

41 ~~(3)~~ Local directory assistance;

42 ~~(4)~~ (2) Interexchange service; and

43 ~~(5)~~ (3) Emergency 911 service;

44 ~~(d)~~ (c) The first single-line directory listing; and



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~~(e)~~ (d) Universal lifeline service for those eligible for such service.

**Sec. 5.** NRS 704.011 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.011 1. "Competitive supplier" means a telecommunication provider that is subject to the provisions of NRS 704.68861 to 704.68887, inclusive ~~§~~, and *section 2 of this act*.

2. The term does not include a small-scale provider of last resort unless the provider is authorized by the Commission pursuant to NRS 704.68869 to be regulated as a competitive supplier.

**Sec. 6.** NRS 704.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.280 The Commission may:

1. Regulate the manner in which power ~~§~~ and telephone ~~and telegraph~~ lines, pipelines and the tracks of any street, steam or electric railroad or other common carrier cross or connect with any other such lines or common carriers.

2. Prescribe such regulations and safety devices, respectively, as may be necessary for the purpose of securing adequate service and for the protection of the public.

**Sec. 7.** NRS 704.638 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.638 It is unlawful for any person to post any advertising sign, display or device, including a temporary political sign, on any pole, support or other device of a public utility which is used to support a ~~telegraph,~~ telephone or electric transmission line.

**Sec. 8.** NRS 704.6878 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.6878 ~~§~~ The Commission shall adopt regulations that establish ~~§~~:

~~(a) The~~ *the* obligations of incumbent local exchange carriers as providers of last resort giving due consideration to the status of the incumbent local exchange carriers as either competitive suppliers or small-scale providers of last resort.

~~(b) The terms, conditions and procedures under which:~~

~~(1) An incumbent local exchange carrier may be excused from the obligations of the provider of last resort; and~~

~~(2) The Commission may request an incumbent local exchange carrier to reinstate the obligations of the provider of last resort.~~

~~(c) The manner of giving prior written notice of not less than 180 days before another provider of basic network service or business line service may terminate or discontinue such services and the terms of any bond necessary to protect consumers and ensure continuity of such services.~~

~~2. The regulations adopted by the Commission may not allow an incumbent local exchange carrier to be excused from the obligations of the provider of last resort in situations where the incumbent local exchange carrier, before May 31, 2007, made an~~





~~agreement to or was specifically ordered to act as the provider of last resort.~~

**Sec. 9.** NRS 704.68861 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.68861 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, any telecommunication provider operating within this State is a competitive supplier that is subject to the provisions of NRS 704.68861 to 704.68887, inclusive ~~H~~, *and section 2 of this act.*

2. A small-scale provider of last resort is not a competitive supplier that is subject to the provisions of NRS 704.68861 to 704.68887, inclusive, *and section 2 of this act*, unless the small-scale provider of last resort is authorized by the Commission pursuant to NRS 704.68869 to be regulated as a competitive supplier.

**Sec. 10.** NRS 704.68863 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.68863 The provisions of NRS 704.68861 to 704.68887, inclusive, *and section 2 of this act* do not:

1. Apply to the Commission in connection with any actions or decisions required or permitted by the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat. 56-161; or

2. Limit or modify:

(a) The duties of a competitive supplier that is an incumbent local exchange carrier regarding the provision of network interconnection, unbundled network elements and resold services under the provisions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat. 56-161; or

(b) The authority of the Commission to act pursuant to NRS 704.6881 and 704.6882.

**Sec. 11.** NRS 704.68865 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.68865 The Commission may adopt any regulations that are necessary to carry out the provisions of NRS 704.68861 to 704.68887, inclusive ~~H~~, *and section 2 of this act.*

**Sec. 12.** NRS 704.68869 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.68869 1. A small-scale provider of last resort may apply to the Commission to be regulated as a competitive supplier pursuant to NRS 704.68861 to 704.68887, inclusive ~~H~~, *and section 2 of this act.*

2. The Commission may grant the application if it finds that the public interest will be served by allowing the small-scale provider of last resort to be regulated as a competitive supplier.

3. If the Commission denies the application, the small-scale provider of last resort:



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(a) May not be regulated as a competitive supplier but remains subject to regulation pursuant to this chapter as a telecommunication provider; and

(b) May not submit another application to be regulated as a competitive supplier sooner than 1 year after the date the most recent application was denied, unless the Commission, upon a showing of good cause or changed circumstances, allows the provider to submit another application sooner.

**Sec. 13.** NRS 704.68871 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.68871 1. A competitive supplier is not subject to any review of earnings or monitoring of the rate base or any other regulation by the Commission relating to the net income or rate of return of the competitive supplier, and the Commission shall not consider the rate of return, the rate base or any other earnings of the competitive supplier in carrying out the provisions of NRS 704.68861 to 704.68887, inclusive ~~+~~, and *section 2 of this act*.

2. On or before May 15 of each year, a competitive supplier shall file with the Commission an annual statement of income, a balance sheet, a statement of cash flows for the total operations of the competitive supplier and a statement of intrastate service revenues, each prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

3. A competitive supplier is not required to submit any other form of financial report or comply with any other accounting requirements, including, without limitation, requirements relating to depreciation and affiliate transactions, imposed upon a public utility by this chapter, chapter 703 of NRS or the regulations of the Commission.

**Sec. 14.** NRS 704.68873 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.68873 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 704.68861 to 704.68887, inclusive, *and section 2 of this act*, a competitive supplier:

(a) Is exempt from the provisions of NRS 704.100 and 704.110 and the regulations of the Commission relating thereto and from any other provision of this chapter governing the rates, pricing, terms and conditions of any telecommunication service; and

(b) May exercise complete flexibility in the rates, pricing, terms and conditions of any telecommunication service.

2. The rates, pricing, terms and conditions of intrastate switched or special access service provided by a competitive supplier that is an incumbent local exchange carrier and the applicability of such access service to intrastate interexchange traffic are subject to regulation by the Commission, which



1 must be consistent with federal law, unless the Commission  
2 deregulates intrastate switched or special access service pursuant to  
3 NRS 704.68879.

4 3. A competitive supplier that is an incumbent local exchange  
5 carrier shall use a letter of advice to change any rates, pricing, terms  
6 and conditions of intrastate switched or special access service,  
7 universal lifeline service or access to emergency 911 service. A  
8 letter of advice submitted pursuant to this subsection shall be  
9 deemed approved if the Commission does not otherwise act on the  
10 letter of advice within 120 days after the date on which the letter is  
11 filed with the Commission.

12 **Sec. 15.** NRS 704.68875 is hereby amended to read as  
13 follows:

14 704.68875 1. A competitive supplier is not required to  
15 maintain or file any schedule or tariff with the Commission.

16 2. ~~Each~~ *For any area in which a* competitive supplier ~~that~~  
17 is ~~an incumbent local exchange carrier~~ *a provider of last resort,*  
18 *the competitive supplier:*

19 (a) Shall publish the rates, pricing, terms and conditions of basic  
20 network service by:

21 (1) Posting such rates, pricing, terms and conditions  
22 electronically on a publicly available Internet website maintained by  
23 the competitive supplier;

24 (2) Maintaining for inspection by the public a copy of such  
25 rates, pricing, terms and conditions at the principal office in Nevada  
26 of the competitive supplier; or

27 (3) Delivering to the customer a copy of the rates, pricing,  
28 terms and conditions in writing with the first invoice, billing  
29 statement or other written summary of charges for the  
30 telecommunication service provided by the competitive supplier to  
31 the customer; and

32 (b) May publish the rates, pricing, terms and conditions of other  
33 telecommunication service by:

34 (1) Posting such rates, pricing, terms and conditions  
35 electronically on a publicly available Internet website maintained by  
36 the competitive supplier;

37 (2) Maintaining for inspection by the public a copy of such  
38 rates, pricing, terms and conditions at the principal office in Nevada  
39 of the competitive supplier; or

40 (3) Delivering to the customer a copy of the rates, pricing,  
41 terms and conditions in writing with the first invoice, billing  
42 statement or other written summary of charges for the  
43 telecommunication service provided by the competitive supplier to  
44 the customer.



**Sec. 16.** NRS 704.68877 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.68877 1. The Commission shall not decrease the rates or pricing of basic network service provided by a competitive supplier, unless the competitive supplier files a general rate application pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 and the Commission orders a decrease in the rates or pricing of such service in a general rate case proceeding conducted pursuant thereto.

2. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a competitive supplier that is an incumbent local exchange carrier shall not:

(a) Without the approval of the Commission, discontinue basic network service or change the terms and conditions of basic network service as set forth in the tariffs of the competitive supplier that were in effect on January 1, 2007.

(b) Before January 1, 2012, increase the rates or pricing of basic network service as set forth in the tariffs of the competitive supplier that were in effect on January 1, 2007, except that notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter:

(1) On or after January 1, 2011, and before January 1, 2012, the competitive supplier may, without the approval of the Commission, increase the rates or pricing of basic network service provided by the competitive supplier but the total of all increases during that period may not result in rates or pricing of basic network service that is more than \$1 above the rates or pricing set forth in the tariffs of the competitive supplier that were in effect on January 1, 2007; and

(2) The Commission may allow the competitive supplier to increase the rates or pricing of basic network service above the amounts authorized by this subsection only if the competitive supplier files a general rate application and proves in a general rate case proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 704.110 and 704.120 that the increase is absolutely necessary to avoid rates or prices that are confiscatory under the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of this State. In such a general rate case proceeding, the Commission:

(I) May allow an increase in the rates or pricing of basic network service provided by the competitive supplier only in an amount that the competitive supplier proves in the general rate case proceeding is absolutely necessary to avoid an unconstitutional result and shall not authorize in the general rate case proceeding any rate, price or other relief for the competitive supplier that is not proven by the competitive supplier to be absolutely necessary to avoid an unconstitutional result; and

(II) May order a decrease in the rates or pricing of basic network service provided by the competitive supplier if the



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Commission determines in the general rate case proceeding that the decrease is necessary to provide customers with just and reasonable rates.

3. On or after January 1, 2012:

(a) A competitive supplier that is an incumbent local exchange carrier may exercise flexibility in the rates, pricing, terms and conditions of basic network service in the same manner permitted for other telecommunication service pursuant to NRS 704.68873; and

(b) The Commission shall not:

(1) Regulate the rates, pricing, terms and conditions of basic network service provided by such a competitive supplier; or

(2) Require such a competitive supplier to maintain any schedule or tariff for basic network service.

4. ~~[A]~~ *For any area in which a competitive supplier is a provider of last resort, the* competitive supplier ~~[that is an incumbent local exchange carrier]~~ must provide reasonably detailed information concerning the rates, pricing, terms and conditions of basic network service in the manner required by NRS 704.68875.

**Sec. 17.** NRS 704.68881 is hereby amended to read as follows:

704.68881 1. ~~[A]~~ *For any area in which a competitive supplier is a provider of last resort, the* competitive supplier ~~[that is a provider of last resort may use an alternative technology to satisfy the]~~ *may satisfy its* obligation ~~[to provide basic network service or business line service in a service territory.]~~ *as a provider of last resort through an alternative voice service.*

2. ~~[Except as otherwise provided in this section, the]~~ *The* Commission may not exercise jurisdiction over an alternative ~~[technology]~~ *voice service* used by a competitive supplier ~~[that is a provider of last resort]~~ *or its affiliate* to satisfy the ~~[obligation to provide basic network service or business line service in a service territory.]~~ *competitive supplier's obligation as a provider of last resort,* including, without limitation, determining the rates, pricing, terms, conditions or availability of an alternative ~~[technology.]~~ *voice service.*

3. ~~[If a competitive supplier that is a provider of last resort uses an alternative technology to satisfy the obligation to provide basic network service or business line service in a service territory, the Commission may investigate whether basic network service or business line service provided through the alternative technology by the competitive supplier is functionally comparable with circuit-switched wireline telephony.]~~

4. ~~If, after notice and hearing, the Commission finds any material deficiency in the competitive supplier's use of the~~



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~~alternative technology to satisfy the obligation to provide basic network service or business line service, the Commission may order the competitive supplier to implement corrective action, within a technically reasonable period, to cure the material deficiency in the use of the alternative technology.~~

~~— 5. — As used in this section, “alternative technology” means any technology, facility or equipment, other than circuit switched wireline telephony, that has the capability to provide customers with service functionally comparable to basic network service or business line service. The term includes, without limitation, wireless or Internet technology, facilities or equipment.} The use of an alternative voice service provided by a competitive supplier or an affiliate of the competitive supplier to satisfy the competitive supplier’s obligation as a provider of last resort does not affect any obligation of the competitive supplier:~~

~~(a) As an incumbent local exchange carrier pursuant to federal law.~~

~~(b) Pursuant to NRS 704.033.~~

~~4. As used in this section, “alternative voice service” means a retail voice service made available through any technology or service arrangement that provides:~~

~~(a) Voice-grade access to the public switched telephone network; and~~

~~(b) Access to emergency 911 service.~~

**Sec. 18.** NRS 707.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:

707.230 Any person or persons, company, association or corporation, desiring to do so, may construct and maintain, or, if already constructed, may maintain, or, if partially constructed, may complete and maintain, within this state, a ~~telegraph~~ **telephone** line or lines by complying with NRS 707.240.

**Sec. 19.** NRS 707.250 is hereby amended to read as follows:

707.250 The person or persons, company, association or corporation named in the certificate (provided for in NRS 707.240), and their assigns ~~†~~:

~~— 1. — May† may~~ construct, or if constructed, maintain, or if partially constructed, complete and maintain, their **telephone** line ~~{of telegraph.}~~ described in their certificate, filed as provided in NRS 707.240, over and through any public or private lands, and along or across any streets, alleys, roads, highways or streams within this state, provided they do not obstruct the same. ~~†~~;

~~— 2. — May operate the telegraph line between the termini of the same, and have and maintain offices and stations at any city, town, place or point along the line; and~~

~~— 3. — Shall be entitled to demand, receive and collect for dispatches and messages transmitted over such line such sum or~~



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~~sums as such person or persons or the officers of the company, association or corporation (as the case may be) may deem proper.~~

**Sec. 19.5.** NRS 707.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:

707.280 1. Any person or the person's assigns, who are constructing, or who have already constructed, or who may propose to construct, a **telephone** line ~~of telegraph,~~ as provided in NRS 707.230 to ~~707.290,~~ **707.280**, inclusive, ~~has~~ **have** the right-of-way for the line and so much land as may be necessary to construct and maintain the line, and for this purpose may enter upon private lands along the line described in the certificate for the purpose of examining and surveying them.

2. Where the lands cannot be obtained by the consent of the owner or possessor thereof, so much of the land as may be necessary for the construction of the line may be appropriated by the person or the person's assigns (as the case may be), after making compensation therefor, as follows. The person or the person's agent shall select one appraiser, and the owner or possessor shall select one, and the two so selected shall select a third. The three shall appraise the lands sought to be appropriated, after having been first sworn, before a person authorized by law to administer oaths, to make a true appraisal thereof, according to the best of their knowledge and belief.

3. If the person or the person's agent tenders to the owner or possessor the appraised value of the lands, appraised as provided in subsection 2, the person or agent may proceed in the construction, or, if constructed, in the use of the line over the land so appraised, and may maintain the line over and upon the land, and at all times enter upon the land and pass over all adjoining lands for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and repairing the ~~telegraph~~ **telephone** line, notwithstanding the tender may be refused. The tender must always be kept good by the person or the person's agent.

4. An appeal may be taken by either party, from the finding of the appraisers, to the district court of the county within which the land so appraised is situated at any time within 3 months after the appraisal.

**Sec. 20.** NRS 707.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:

707.300 All persons or corporations owning and operating telephone lines in this state are entitled to all the rights and privileges and are subject to all the restrictions and responsibilities provided in NRS 707.230 to ~~707.290, inclusive, so far as those rights, privileges, restrictions and responsibilities are applicable to telephone companies.~~ **707.280, inclusive.**

**Sec. 21.** NRS 707.910 is hereby amended to read as follows:

707.910 Any person who:



1 1. By the attachment of a ground wire, or by any other  
2 contrivance, willfully destroys the insulation of a ~~telegraph or~~  
3 telephone line, or interrupts the transmission of the electric current  
4 through the line;

5 2. Willfully interferes with the use of any ~~telegraph or~~  
6 telephone line, or obstructs or postpones the transmission of any  
7 message over the line; or

8 3. Procures or advises any such injury, interference or  
9 obstruction,

10 ➔ is guilty of a public offense, as prescribed in NRS 193.155,  
11 proportionate to the value of any property damaged, altered,  
12 removed or destroyed and in no event less than a misdemeanor.

13 **Sec. 22.** NRS 709.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 709.050 1. The board of county commissioners may grant to  
15 any person, company, corporation or association the franchise, right  
16 and privilege to construct, install, operate and maintain street  
17 railways, electric light, heat and power lines, gas and water mains,  
18 telephone ~~and telegraph~~ lines, and all necessary or proper  
19 appliances used in connection therewith or appurtenant thereto, in  
20 the streets, alleys, avenues and other places in any unincorporated  
21 town in the county, and along the public roads and highways of the  
22 county, when the applicant complies with the terms and provisions  
23 of NRS 709.050 to 709.170, inclusive.

24 2. The board of county commissioners shall not:

25 (a) Impose any terms or conditions on a franchise granted  
26 pursuant to subsection 1 for the provision of telecommunication  
27 service or interactive computer service other than terms or  
28 conditions concerning the placement and location of the telephone  
29 ~~for telegraph~~ lines and fees imposed for a business license or the  
30 franchise, right or privilege to construct, install or operate such  
31 lines.

32 (b) Require a company that provides telecommunication service  
33 or interactive computer service to obtain a franchise if it provides  
34 telecommunication service over the telephone ~~for telegraph~~ lines  
35 owned by another company.

36 3. As used in NRS 709.050 to 709.170, inclusive:

37 (a) "Interactive computer service" has the meaning ascribed to it  
38 in 47 U.S.C. § 230(f)(2), as that section existed on January 1, 2007.

39 (b) "Street railway" means:

40 (1) A system of public transportation operating over fixed  
41 rails on the surface of the ground; or

42 (2) An overhead or underground system, other than a  
43 monorail, used for public transportation.

44 ➔ The term does not include a super speed ground transportation  
45 system as defined in NRS 705.4292.





(c) "Telecommunication service" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 704.028.

4. As used in this section, "monorail" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 705.650.

**Sec. 23.** NRS 709.060 is hereby amended to read as follows:

709.060 Any person, company, corporation or association desiring a franchise, right or privilege for any purpose specified in NRS 709.050 must file with the board of county commissioners of the county wherein the franchise, right or privilege is to be exercised an application in writing, which contains:

1. The name of the applicant and the time for which the franchise, right or privilege is desired, not exceeding 25 years.

2. The places where the franchise, right or privilege is to be exercised and, if in any unincorporated town, the streets, avenues, alleys and other places through, over, under or along which the franchise, right or privilege is sought.

3. If the application is for a street railway, it must designate the route of the proposed line in the county, and specify the width of ground desired to be included in its right-of-way.

4. A map or plat correctly showing and delineating, so far as practicable, the proposed route or right-of-way of any street railway, light, heat, ~~for~~ power ~~[-telegraph]~~ or telephone lines, and the places where gas or water mains are to be laid or installed.

**Sec. 24.** NRS 709.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:

709.100 The board of the county commissioners, at the time of granting any such authority, franchise and right-of-way, shall require the applicant to enter into an undertaking to the county in a sum to be determined by the board of county commissioners, with surety or sureties approved by the board, conditioned that the applicant shall commence active construction of such telephone, ~~[-telegraph]~~ light, heat or power lines, the laying of gas or water mains, or such streetcar system, for which such franchise, right or privilege is granted, within 60 days from the date of the granting of the franchise, right or privilege, and prosecute the construction thereof to completion with due diligence; and, failing to comply with the conditions of such undertaking, shall pay into the treasury of the county to which such undertaking is given the sum of money mentioned therein and forfeit all rights to such franchise, right or privilege.

**Sec. 25.** NRS 709.130 is hereby amended to read as follows:

709.130 1. Every person, company, corporation or association receiving a franchise pursuant to the provisions of NRS 709.050 to 709.170, inclusive, shall:

(a) Provide a plant with all necessary appurtenances of approved construction for the full performance of the franchise duties, rights



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1 and obligations, and for the needs, comfort and convenience of the  
2 inhabitants of the various unincorporated towns and cities, county or  
3 place to which the franchise relates.

4 (b) Keep the plants and appurtenances, including all tracks, cars,  
5 poles, wires, pipes, mains and other attachments, in good repair, so  
6 as not to interfere with the passage of persons or vehicles, or the  
7 safety of persons or property.

8 2. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the board of  
9 county commissioners may when granting such franchise, fix and  
10 direct the location of all tracks, poles, wires, mains, pipes and other  
11 appurtenances upon the public streets, alleys, avenues and highways  
12 as best to serve the convenience of the public. The board may  
13 change the location of any appurtenances and permit, upon proper  
14 showing, all necessary extensions thereof when the interest or  
15 convenience of the public requires. The board shall not require a  
16 company that provides telecommunication service or interactive  
17 computer service to place its facilities in ducts or conduits or on  
18 poles owned or leased by the county.

19 3. All poles, except poles from which trolley wires are  
20 suspended for streetcar lines, from which wires are suspended for  
21 electric railroads, power, light or heating purposes within the  
22 boundaries of unincorporated towns and over public highways must  
23 not be less than 30 feet in height, and the wires strung thereon must  
24 not be less than 25 feet above the ground.

25 4. Every person, company, association or corporation operating  
26 a telephone, ~~telegraph or~~ electric light, heat or power line, or any  
27 electric railway line, shall, with due diligence, provide itself, at its  
28 own expense, a competent electrician to cut, repair and replace  
29 wires in all cases where cutting or repairing or replacing is made  
30 necessary by the removal of buildings or other property through the  
31 public streets or highways.

32 5. No person, company, corporation or association may receive  
33 an exclusive franchise nor may any board of county commissioners  
34 grant a franchise in such manner or under such terms or conditions  
35 as to hinder or obstruct the granting of franchises to other grantees,  
36 or in such manner as to obstruct or impede reasonable competition  
37 in any business or public service to which NRS 709.050 to 709.170,  
38 inclusive, apply.

39 **Sec. 26.** NRS 709.150 is hereby amended to read as follows:

40 709.150 1. All persons, companies, associations or  
41 corporations in the business of conducting street railways,  
42 telephone, ~~telegraph,~~ electric light and power lines, gas or water  
43 mains in any of the cities, towns or places mentioned in NRS  
44 709.050 to 709.170, inclusive, under the provisions of any other law  
45 providing for the granting of such franchises, and who or which has



1 not fully complied with the provisions of the law under which the  
2 franchise was obtained, may, nevertheless, have and enjoy all the  
3 privileges and benefits of NRS 709.050 to 709.170, inclusive, if  
4 such person, company, association or corporation shall, within 6  
5 months after March 23, 1909, file in the Office of the Secretary of  
6 State, and in the office of the county recorder of the county in which  
7 such person, company, corporation or association maintains its  
8 principal office or place of business, a duly executed and  
9 acknowledged acceptance of the terms, conditions and provisions of  
10 NRS 709.050 to 709.170, inclusive, which acceptance, in case of a  
11 corporation, shall be evidenced by a duly attested or certified copy  
12 of a resolution of its board of directors.

13 2. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to  
14 relieve any such person, company, association or corporation of any  
15 duty or obligation provided in any law or contained in any franchise  
16 under which any person, company, association or corporation is  
17 operating on March 23, 1909.

18 **Sec. 27.** NRS 710.035 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 710.035 Notwithstanding the provisions of NRS 710.030, the  
20 board of county commissioners of any county controlling and  
21 managing a telephone system, for the extension, betterment,  
22 alteration, reconstruction or other major improvement, or any  
23 combination thereof, of the system, including without limitation the  
24 purchase, construction, condemnation and other acquisition of  
25 plants, stations, other buildings, structures, ~~telegraphic equipment,~~  
26 other equipment, furnishings, transmission and distribution lines,  
27 other facilities, lands in fee simple, easements, rights-of-way, other  
28 interests in land, other real and personal property, and  
29 appurtenances, may, at any time or from time to time, in the name  
30 and on the behalf of the county, issue:

31 1. General obligation bonds, payable from taxes;

32 2. General obligation bonds, payable from taxes, which  
33 payment is additionally secured by a pledge of the net revenues  
34 derived from the operation of the system; and

35 3. Revenue bonds constituting special obligations and payable  
36 from such net revenues.

37 **Sec. 28.** NRS 710.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 710.310 Subject to the provisions of NRS 710.310 to 710.390,  
39 inclusive, the governing body of the county or city, for the lease,  
40 purchase, construction, other acquisition, extension, betterment,  
41 alteration, reconstruction or other major improvement, financial  
42 assistance for operation, or any combination thereof, of a railroad  
43 system, including without limitation the lease, purchase,  
44 construction, condemnation and other acquisition of plants, stations,  
45 other buildings, structures, engines, cars, tracks, ~~telegraphic~~



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1 ~~equipment,~~ signal equipment, traffic control equipment,  
2 maintenance equipment, other equipment, furnishings, electric  
3 transmission lines, other facilities, lands in fee simple, easements,  
4 rights-of-way, other interests in land, other real and personal  
5 property and appurtenances, may at any time, in the name and on  
6 the behalf of the county or the city, issue:

7 1. In the manner provided in NRS 350.011 to 350.070,  
8 inclusive:

9 (a) General obligation bonds, payable from taxes; and

10 (b) General obligation bonds, payable from taxes, which  
11 payment is additionally secured by a pledge of the net revenues  
12 derived from the operation of the system.

13 2. Revenue bonds constituting special obligations and payable  
14 from net revenues, without the necessity of the revenue bonds being  
15 authorized at any election.

16 **Sec. 29.** NRS 37.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 37.010 1. Subject to the provisions of this chapter and the  
18 limitations in subsections 2 and 3, the right of eminent domain may  
19 be exercised in behalf of the following public uses:

20 (a) Federal activities. All public purposes authorized by the  
21 Government of the United States.

22 (b) State activities. Public buildings and grounds for the use of  
23 the State, the Nevada System of Higher Education and all other  
24 public purposes authorized by the Legislature.

25 (c) County, city, town and school district activities. Public  
26 buildings and grounds for the use of any county, incorporated city or  
27 town, or school district, reservoirs, water rights, canals, aqueducts,  
28 flumes, ditches or pipes for conducting water for the use of the  
29 inhabitants of any county, incorporated city or town, for draining  
30 any county, incorporated city or town, for raising the banks of  
31 streams, removing obstructions therefrom, and widening, deepening  
32 or straightening their channels, for roads, streets and alleys, and all  
33 other public purposes for the benefit of any county, incorporated  
34 city or town, or the inhabitants thereof.

35 (d) Bridges, toll roads, railroads, street railways and similar  
36 uses. Wharves, docks, piers, chutes, booms, ferries, bridges, toll  
37 roads, byroads, plank and turnpike roads, roads for transportation by  
38 traction engines or locomotives, roads for logging or lumbering  
39 purposes, and railroads and street railways for public transportation.

40 (e) Ditches, canals, aqueducts for smelting, domestic uses,  
41 irrigation and reclamation. Reservoirs, dams, water gates, canals,  
42 ditches, flumes, tunnels, aqueducts and pipes for supplying persons,  
43 mines, mills, smelters or other works for the reduction of ores, with  
44 water for domestic and other uses, for irrigating purposes, for



1 draining and reclaiming lands, or for floating logs and lumber on  
2 streams not navigable.

3 (f) Byroads. Byroads leading from highways to residences and  
4 farms.

5 (g) Public utilities. Lines for ~~telegraph,~~ telephone, electric light  
6 and electric power and sites for plants for electric light and power.

7 (h) Sewerage. Sewerage of any city, town, settlement of not less  
8 than 10 families or any public building belonging to the State or  
9 college or university.

10 (i) Water for generation and transmission of electricity. Canals,  
11 reservoirs, dams, ditches, flumes, aqueducts and pipes for supplying  
12 and storing water for the operation of machinery to generate and  
13 transmit electricity for power, light or heat.

14 (j) Cemeteries, public parks. Cemeteries or public parks.

15 (k) Pipelines for petroleum products, natural gas. Pipelines for  
16 the transportation of crude petroleum, petroleum products or natural  
17 gas, whether interstate or intrastate.

18 (l) Aviation. Airports, facilities for air navigation and aerial  
19 rights-of-way.

20 (m) Monorails. Monorails and any other overhead or  
21 underground system used for public transportation.

22 (n) Video service providers. Video service providers that are  
23 authorized pursuant to chapter 711 of NRS to operate a video  
24 service network. The exercise of the power of eminent domain may  
25 include the right to use the wires, conduits, cables or poles of any  
26 public utility if:

27 (1) It creates no substantial detriment to the service provided  
28 by the utility;

29 (2) It causes no irreparable injury to the utility; and

30 (3) The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada, after giving  
31 notice and affording a hearing to all persons affected by the  
32 proposed use of the wires, conduits, cables or poles, has found that it  
33 is in the public interest.

34 (o) Redevelopment. The acquisition of property pursuant to  
35 NRS 279.382 to 279.685, inclusive.

36 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and except as  
37 otherwise provided in this subsection, the public uses for which  
38 private property may be taken by the exercise of eminent domain do  
39 not include the direct or indirect transfer of any interest in the  
40 property to another private person or entity. Property taken by the  
41 exercise of eminent domain may be transferred to another private  
42 person or entity in the following circumstances:

43 (a) The entity that took the property transfers the property to a  
44 private person or entity and the private person or entity uses the  
45 property primarily to benefit a public service, including, without



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1 limitation, a utility, railroad, public transportation project, pipeline,  
2 road, bridge, airport or facility that is owned by a governmental  
3 entity.

4 (b) The entity that took the property leases the property to a  
5 private person or entity that occupies an incidental part of an airport  
6 or a facility that is owned by a governmental entity and, before  
7 leasing the property:

8 (1) Uses its best efforts to notify the person from whom the  
9 property was taken that the property will be leased to a private  
10 person or entity that will occupy an incidental part of an airport or  
11 facility that is owned by a governmental entity; and

12 (2) Provides the person from whom the property was taken  
13 with an opportunity to bid or propose on any such lease.

14 (c) The entity that took the property:

15 (1) Took the property in order to acquire property that was  
16 abandoned by the owner, abate an immediate threat to the safety of  
17 the public or remediate hazardous waste; and

18 (2) Grants a right of first refusal to the person from whom  
19 the property was taken that allows that person to reacquire the  
20 property on the same terms and conditions that are offered to the  
21 other private person or entity.

22 (d) The entity that took the property exchanges it for other  
23 property acquired or being acquired by eminent domain or under the  
24 threat of eminent domain for roadway or highway purposes, to  
25 relocate public or private structures or to avoid payment of  
26 excessive compensation or damages.

27 (e) The person from whom the property is taken consents to the  
28 taking.

29 3. The entity that is taking property by the exercise of eminent  
30 domain has the burden of proving that the taking is for a public use.

31 4. For the purposes of this section, an airport authority or any  
32 public airport is not a private person or entity.

33 **Sec. 30.** NRS 179.425 is hereby amended to read as follows:

34 179.425 "Electronic, mechanical or other device" means any  
35 device or apparatus which can be used to intercept a wire or oral  
36 communication other than:

37 1. Any telephone ~~for telegraph~~ instrument, equipment or  
38 facility, or any component thereof:

39 (a) Furnished to the subscriber or user by a communications  
40 common carrier in the ordinary course of its business and being used  
41 by the subscriber or user in the ordinary course of its business; or

42 (b) Being used by a communications common carrier in the  
43 ordinary course of its business, or by an investigative or law  
44 enforcement officer in the ordinary course of his or her duties.



2. A hearing aid or similar device being used to correct subnormal hearing to not better than normal.

**Sec. 31.** NRS 202.582 is hereby amended to read as follows:

202.582 1. A person who willfully and maliciously removes, damages or destroys any utility property, agricultural infrastructure or other agricultural property, lights maintained by the State or a local government, construction site or existing structure to obtain scrap metal shall be punished pursuant to the provisions of this section.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if the value of the property removed, damaged or destroyed as described in subsection 1 is:

(a) Less than \$500, a person who violates the provisions of subsection 1 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) Five hundred dollars or more, a person who violates the provisions of subsection 1 is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

3. If the removal, damage or destruction described in subsection 1 causes an interruption in the service provided by any utility property, a person who violates the provisions of subsection 1 is guilty of a category C felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

4. In addition to any other penalty, the court may order a person who violates the provisions of subsection 1 to pay restitution.

5. In determining the value of the property removed, damaged or destroyed as described in subsection 1, the cost of replacing or repairing the property or repairing the utility property, agricultural infrastructure, agricultural property, lights, construction site or existing structure, if necessary, must be added to the value of the property.

6. As used in this section:

(a) "Scrap metal" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 647.017.

(b) "Utility property" means any facility, equipment or other property owned, maintained or used by a company or a city, county or other political subdivision of this State to furnish cable television or other video service, broadband service, telecommunication service, telephone service, ~~telegraph service,~~ natural gas service, water service or electric service, regardless of whether the facility, property or equipment is currently used to furnish such service.

**Sec. 32.** NRS 408.407 is hereby amended to read as follows:

408.407 1. For the purposes of this section:

(a) "Cost of relocation" means the entire amount paid by a utility properly attributable to the relocation of its facilities, including removal, reconstruction and replacement after deducting



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1 therefrom any increase in value of the new facility and any salvage  
2 value derived from the old facility, and includes the costs of all  
3 rights and interests necessary in land and the costs of any other  
4 rights required to accomplish such relocation.

5 (b) "Utility" means any privately, publicly or cooperatively  
6 owned systems for supplying ~~telegraph,~~ telephone, electric power  
7 and light, gas, water, sewer and like service to the public or a  
8 segment of the public.

9 2. Whenever the Director, after consulting with the utility  
10 concerned, determines that any utility facility which now is, or  
11 hereafter may be, located in, over, along or under any highway in  
12 the federal-aid primary or secondary systems or in the interstate  
13 system, including extensions thereof within urban areas, as such  
14 systems are defined in the Federal-Aid Highway Acts and are  
15 accepted by and assented to by the State of Nevada, should be  
16 relocated, the utility owning or operating such utility facility shall  
17 relocate the same in accordance with the order of the Director. The  
18 cost of any such relocation shall be ascertained and paid by the State  
19 as part of the cost of such federally aided project, provided the  
20 proportionate part of such cost is reimbursable from federal funds  
21 under a Federal-Aid Highway Act or any other Act of Congress  
22 under which the State is entitled to reimbursement for all or part of  
23 such cost.

24 3. This section does not apply where a payment of relocation or  
25 removal costs by the State would be inconsistent with the terms of a  
26 permit issued by the Director pursuant to NRS 408.423.

27 **Sec. 33.** NRS 496.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 496.020 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
29 requires:

30 1. "Air navigation facility" means any facility, other than one  
31 owned and operated by the United States, used in, available for use  
32 in, or designed for use in, aid of air navigation, including any  
33 structures, mechanisms, lights, beacons, markers, communicating  
34 systems, or other instrumentalities, or devices used or useful as an  
35 aid, or constituting an advantage or convenience, to the safe taking  
36 off, navigation, and landing of aircraft, or the safe and efficient  
37 operation or maintenance of an airport, and any combination of any  
38 or all of such facilities.

39 2. "Airport" means any area of land or water which is used for  
40 the landing and takeoff of aircraft, and any appurtenant areas which  
41 are used for airport buildings or other airport facilities or rights-of-  
42 way, together with all airport buildings and facilities located  
43 thereon.

44 3. "Airport hazard" means any structure, object of natural  
45 growth, or use of land which obstructs the airspace required for the



1 flight of aircraft in landing or taking off at an airport or is otherwise  
2 hazardous to such landing or taking off of aircraft.

3 4. "Municipal" means pertaining to a municipality as defined  
4 in this section.

5 5. "Municipality" means any county, city or town of this state.

6 6. "Person" includes a government, a governmental agency and  
7 a political subdivision of a government.

8 7. "Public utility" means a person who operates any airline,  
9 broadcasting, electric, gas, pipeline, radio, railroad, rural electric,  
10 sanitary sewer, slurry, telephone ~~[-telegraph]~~ or water business in  
11 this state and who conducts such a business for a public use.

12 **Sec. 34.** NRS 497.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 497.020 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise  
14 requires:

15 1. "Airport" means any area of land or water designed and set  
16 aside for the landing and taking off of aircraft and utilized in the  
17 interest of the public for such purposes.

18 2. "Airport hazard" means any structure or tree or use of land  
19 which obstructs the airspace required for the flight of aircraft in  
20 landing or taking off at any airport, or is otherwise hazardous to the  
21 landing or taking off of aircraft.

22 3. "Airport hazard area" means any area of land or water upon  
23 which an airport hazard might be established if not prevented as  
24 provided in this chapter.

25 4. "Person" includes a government, a governmental agency and  
26 a political subdivision of a government.

27 5. "Political subdivision" means any county, incorporated city,  
28 unincorporated town or airport authority created by special  
29 legislative act as a quasi-municipal corporation.

30 6. "Public utility" means a person who operates any airline,  
31 broadcasting, electric, gas, pipeline, radio, railroad, rural electric,  
32 sanitary sewer, slurry, telephone ~~[-telegraph]~~ or water business in  
33 this State and who conducts such a business for a public use.

34 7. "Structure" means any object constructed or installed by a  
35 person, including, but without limitation, buildings, towers,  
36 smokestacks and overhead wires and other lines.

37 8. "Tree" means any object of natural growth.

38 **Sec. 35.** NRS 707.270 and 707.290 are hereby repealed.

39 **Sec. 36.** The amendatory provisions of this act must not be  
40 construed to impair the vested franchise of any telephone company  
41 based upon state law in existence before the effective date of this  
42 act.

43 **Sec. 36.5.** This act becomes effective upon passage and  
44 approval.



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TEXT OF REPEALED SECTIONS

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**707.270 Lines governed by general laws; transmission of certain messages in order; penalty and civil liability; State may send messages free of charge.**

1. Such line or lines of telegraph as may avail themselves of the provisions of NRS 707.230 to 707.290, inclusive, shall also be governed, in all respects, by the general laws of the State regulating telegraph lines, and shall do the business of side lines, and transmit all dispatches in the order in which they are received, under the penalty of \$100. All damages sustained thereby shall be recovered, with costs of suit, by the person or persons whose dispatch is postponed out of its order; provided:

(a) That arrangements may be made with publishers of newspapers for the transmission of intelligence of general and public interest out of its order; and

(b) That preference may be given to official dispatches for the detection and capture of criminals.

2. Messages on public business may be sent by the State of Nevada over such lines free of charge.

**707.290 Forfeiture of rights, privileges and franchise for failure to maintain line; quo warranto.** The owner or owners of any line or lines constructed and maintained pursuant to the provisions of NRS 707.230 to 707.290, inclusive, shall at all times keep the same in as good condition and repair as may be practicable. If such owner or owners shall fail to keep the same in such condition and repair, such failure shall work a forfeiture of all rights, privileges and franchise belonging to such owner or owners, or any person having any interest therein. Such franchise may be also declared forfeited on information in the nature of a quo warranto, in the manner provided by law.

