

SENATE BILL 3199
By Cooper

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 65, Chapters 4, 5, and 29, relative to telecommunications.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-29-102, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and by adding the following new subsections:

(b) "Reasonably adequate service" means that the provider of services has:

(1) A physical presence in the area being served;

(2) Not less than one (1) employee whose designated workstation is in the area served and;

(3) The rate for basic local exchange telephone services are not ten percent (10%) greater than the rate for basic local exchange telephone services charged by a provider in an adjoining service area.

(c) If the criteria of this section are satisfied, a cooperative may provide telecommunications services in an adjoining service area upon application to the authority for a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

(d) The Tennessee regulatory authority shall promulgate rules to establish standards for the requirements of subsection (b).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.

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