

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Human Services and Early Childhood

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO: None

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Cheyenne Ross, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Provides for termination of residential cable or telecommunications service contract with a deceased individual or an individual in hospice care without penalty. Allows service provider to require documentation of death or hospice care. Authorizes civil penalty up to \$1,000 for violation.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: Customers entering hospice care have reported costly and time-consuming struggles with telecommunications companies when trying to terminate contracts. House Bill 2578-A allows individuals entering hospice, or the next of kin or representative of an individual who has died, to terminate a residential cable, satellite television, or cellular or landline telephone contract without penalty.

House Committee: 7 – 0 – 0

House Floor: 59 – 0 – 1