

**Enrolled**  
**House Bill 3065**

Sponsored by Representatives MARSH, RESCHKE

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to carrier of last resort obligations.

Whereas technological innovation has altered the telecommunications industry across the United States and in Oregon; and

Whereas this technological innovation, as well as changing consumer preferences, potentially brings into question the relevance of certain telecommunications regulatory requirements; now, therefore,

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1. (1) The Public Utility Commission shall establish a public process for the purpose of investigating the continuing relevance of the carrier of last resort obligations provided for under ORS 759.500 to 759.570. The investigation shall focus on whether developing industry trends, technologies and policy drivers in the telecommunications sector impact the existing regulatory system administered by the commission for ensuring adequate and reasonable access for residential customers to telecommunications service in all areas of this state.**

**(2) As part of the public process established under subsection (1) of this section, the commission shall investigate changes to the existing regulatory system and incentives that could accommodate developing industry trends and support new policy objectives without compromising residential customers' access to reliable and safe service at just and reasonable prices in an adequate and nondiscriminatory manner. The investigation required by this subsection shall specifically focus on:**

**(a) Customers whose individual circumstances and needs may impact their access to and usage of telecommunications services, including low-income customers;**

**(b) Residential customers with access at their domicile to fewer than two of the following terrestrial-based service alternatives:**

**(A) Telecommunications services provided by a facilities-based competitive local exchange carrier;**

**(B) Voice service offered via interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol; or**

**(C) Voice service offered by a cellular communications service; and**

**(c) The comparability of voice service offered by wireless Internet service providers and satellite providers.**

**(3) If the commission determines that changes to the existing regulatory system and incentives would be in the interest of residential customers and the public generally, the commission shall develop plans to administratively implement changes to the regulatory system and incentives within its existing statutory authority or shall make recommendations**

to the Legislative Assembly for the purpose of legislatively implementing changes to the regulatory system and incentives.

(4) As part of the public process established under subsection (1) of this section, the commission shall:

(a) Solicit input from:

(A) All telephony providers, including telecommunications utilities, cooperative corporations and municipalities certified by the commission to provide local exchange telecommunications service;

(B) The Citizens' Utility Board;

(C) Residents of, or groups who represent, residents of rural areas of this state;

(D) Advocates for low income persons; and

(E) Senior citizens; and

(b) Provide the public with an opportunity to comment.

(5) The commission shall submit a report on the findings of the public process established under subsection (1) of this section and the progress of investigations conducted under subsection (2) of this section in the manner provided by ORS 192.245 to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to economic development and business and general government no later than September 15, 2020. The commission may include, as part of the commission's report, recommendations for legislation.

**SECTION 2.** Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on January 2, 2021.

Passed by House April 10, 2019

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate May 15, 2019

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2019

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2019

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2019

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Bev Clarno, Secretary of State