
HOUSE BILL 2575

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1996 Regular Session

By Representatives Crouse and D. Sommers; by request of Governor Lowry

Read first time 01/15/96. Referred to Committee on Energy & Utilities.

1 AN ACT Relating to improving access to state government; adding a
2 new section to chapter 80.36 RCW; and creating a new section.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** In order to be involved in the democratic
5 process and receive services provided by elected officials, citizens
6 need access to their elected officials. The legislature finds that the
7 rates charged by telecommunications companies for directory assistance
8 to obtain telephone numbers for offices of elected officials create a
9 barrier for citizens living outside cities in which the offices of
10 elected officials are located. The legislature finds that the need by
11 some citizens to utilize directory assistance to obtain telephone
12 listings for elected officials' offices has a disparate impact on
13 access to elected officials. The legislature finds that efforts to
14 equalize access to elected officials is in the public interest and
15 consistent with efforts by the utilities and transportation commission
16 to implement universal service in telecommunications services.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 80.36 RCW
18 to read as follows:

1 Notwithstanding another provision of this title, telecommunications
2 companies and information service providers may include listings for
3 offices of elected officials in their directories at no charge.

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