

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 5370

C 166 L 97

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Allowing a telecommunications company to reduce a rate or charge in a more streamlined manner.

Sponsors: Senators Finkbeiner, Brown, Hochstatter, Strannigan, Rossi, Sheldon, Patterson and Winsley; by request of Utilities & Transportation Commission.

Senate Committee on Energy & Utilities

House Committee on Energy & Utilities

Background: Every telecommunications company providing service in Washington is required to file its tariffed schedule of rates with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC). If a telecommunications company proposes to change a rate, it is required to file the change with WUTC, with a 30-day notice period. WUTC may then approve or suspend the proposed change.

Summary: A telecommunications company may file a tariff that decreases its rates with ten days' notice to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission if the filing does not contain an offsetting increase to another rate and the filing company agrees not to file, for a period of one year, an increase to another rate to recover the revenue deficit that results from the decrease.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	47	0	
House	94	2	
House	96	0	(House reconsidered)

Effective: July 27, 1997