FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 433

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES RECTOR (Sponsor), JOHNSON (61), BYRD, WRIGHT (137), WRIGHT (159), EMERY, BEARDEN, GEORGE, MYERS, COOPER (120), BIVINS, SKAGGS, DEMPSEY, SCHLOTTACH AND WALSH (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time February 2, 2005 and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

1206L.01I

AN ACT

To repeal sections 386.020, 392.200, 392.245, and 392.500, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to telecommunications companies.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 386.020, 392.200, 392.245, and 392.500, RSMo, are repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 386.020, 392.200, 392.245, and 392.500, to read as follows:

386.020. As used in this chapter, the following words and phrases mean:

(1) "Alternative local exchange telecommunications company", a local exchange telecommunications company certified by the commission to provide basic or nonbasic local telecommunications service or switched exchange access service, or any combination of such services, in a specific geographic area subsequent to December 31, 1995;

(2) "Alternative operator services company", any certificated interexchange telecommunications company which receives more than forty percent of its annual Missouri intrastate telecommunications service revenues from the provision of operator services pursuant to operator services contracts with traffic aggregators;

(3) "Basic interexchange telecommunications service", includes, at a minimum, two-way switched voice service between points in different local calling scopes as determined by the commission and shall include other services as determined by the commission by rule upon periodic review and update;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[**thus**]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

(4) "Basic local telecommunications service", two-way switched voice service within a local calling scope as determined by the commission comprised of any of the following services and their recurring and nonrecurring charges:

(a) Multiparty, single line, including installation, touchtone dialing, and any applicable mileage or zone charges;

(b) Assistance programs for installation of, or access to, basic local telecommunications services for qualifying economically disadvantaged or disabled customers or both, including, but not limited to, lifeline services and link-up Missouri services for low-income customers or dual-party relay service for the hearing impaired and speech impaired;

(c) Access to local emergency services including, but not limited to, 911 service established by local authorities;

(d) Access to basic local operator services;

(e) Access to basic local directory assistance;

(f) Standard intercept service;

(g) Equal access to interexchange carriers consistent with rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission;

(h) One standard white pages directory listing.

Basic local telecommunications service does not include optional toll free calling outside a local calling scope but within a community of interest, available for an additional monthly fee or the offering or provision of basic local telecommunications service at private shared-tenant service locations;

(5) "Cable television service", the one-way transmission to subscribers of video programming or other programming service and the subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for the selection of such video programming or other programming service;

(6) "Carrier of last resort", any telecommunications company which is obligated to offer basic local telecommunications service to all customers who request service in a geographic area defined by the commission and cannot abandon this obligation without approval from the commission;

(7) "Commission", the "Public Service Commission" hereby created;

(8) "Commissioner", one of the members of the commission;

(9) "Competitive telecommunications company", a telecommunications company which has been classified as such by the commission pursuant to section 392.361, RSMo;

(10) "Competitive telecommunications service", a telecommunications service which has been classified as such by the commission pursuant to section **392.245 or** 392.361, RSMo, or which has become a competitive telecommunications service pursuant to section 392.370,

RSMo;

(11) "Corporation" includes a corporation, company, association and joint stock association or company;

(12) "Customer-owned pay telephone", a privately owned telecommunications device that is not owned, leased or otherwise controlled by a local exchange telecommunications company and which provides telecommunications services for a use fee to the general public;

(13) "Effective competition" shall be determined by the commission based on:

(a) The extent to which services are available from alternative providers in the relevant market;

(b) The extent to which the services of alternative providers are functionally equivalent or substitutable at comparable rates, terms and conditions;

(c) The extent to which the purposes and policies of chapter 392, RSMo, including the reasonableness of rates, as set out in section 392.185, RSMo, are being advanced;

(d) Existing economic or regulatory barriers to entry; and

(e) Any other factors deemed relevant by the commission and necessary to implement the purposes and policies of chapter 392, RSMo;

(14) "Electric plant" includes all real estate, fixtures and personal property operated, controlled, owned, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the generation, transmission, distribution, sale or furnishing of electricity for light, heat or power; and any conduits, ducts or other devices, materials, apparatus or property for containing, holding or carrying conductors used or to be used for the transmission of electricity for light, heat or power;

(15) "Electrical corporation" includes every corporation, company, association, joint stock company or association, partnership and person, their lessees, trustees or receivers appointed by any court whatsoever, other than a railroad, light rail or street railroad corporation generating electricity solely for railroad, light rail or street railroad purposes or for the use of its tenants and not for sale to others, owning, operating, controlling or managing any electric plant except where electricity is generated or distributed by the producer solely on or through private property for railroad, light rail or street railroad purposes or for its own use or the use of its tenants and not for sale to others;

(16) "Exchange", a geographical area for the administration of telecommunications services, established and described by the tariff of a telecommunications company providing basic local telecommunications service;

(17) "Exchange access service", a service provided by a local exchange telecommunications company which enables a telecommunications company or other customer to enter and exit the local exchange telecommunications network in order to originate or terminate interexchange telecommunications service;

(18) "Gas corporation" includes every corporation, company, association, joint stock company or association, partnership and person, their lessees, trustees or receivers appointed by any court whatsoever, owning, operating, controlling or managing any gas plant operating for public use under privilege, license or franchise now or hereafter granted by the state or any political subdivision, county or municipality thereof;

(19) "Gas plant" includes all real estate, fixtures and personal property owned, operated, controlled, used or to be used for or in connection with or to facilitate the manufacture, distribution, sale or furnishing of gas, natural or manufactured, for light, heat or power;

(20) "Heating company" includes every corporation, company, association, joint stock company or association, partnership and person, their lessees, trustees or receivers, appointed by any court whatsoever, owning, operating, managing or controlling any plant or property for manufacturing and distributing and selling, for distribution, or distributing hot or cold water, steam or currents of hot or cold air for motive power, heating, cooking, or for any public use or service, in any city, town or village in this state; provided, that no agency or authority created by or operated pursuant to an interstate compact established pursuant to section 70.370, RSMo, shall be a heating company or subject to regulation by the commission;

(21) "High-cost area", a geographic area, which shall follow exchange boundaries and be no smaller than an exchange nor larger than a local calling scope, where the cost of providing basic local telecommunications service as determined by the commission, giving due regard to recovery of an appropriate share of joint and common costs as well as those costs related to carrier of last resort obligations, exceeds the rate for basic local telecommunications service found reasonable by the commission;

(22) "Incumbent local exchange telecommunications company", a local exchange telecommunications company authorized to provide basic local telecommunications service in a specific geographic area as of December 31, 1995, or a successor in interest to such a company;

(23) "Interexchange telecommunications company", any company engaged in the provision of interexchange telecommunications service;

(24) "Interexchange telecommunications service", telecommunications service between points in two or more exchanges;

(25) "InterLATA", interexchange telecommunications service between points in different local access and transportation areas;

(26) "IntraLATA", interexchange telecommunications service between points within the same local access and transportation area;

(27) "Light rail" includes every rail transportation system in which one or more rail vehicles are propelled electrically by overhead catenary wire upon tracks located substantially within an urban area and are operated exclusively in the transportation of passengers and their

baggage, and including all bridges, tunnels, equipment, switches, spurs, tracks, stations, used in connection with the operation of light rail;

(28) "Line" includes route;

(29) "Local access and transportation area" or "LATA", contiguous geographic area approved by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in United States v. Western Electric, Civil Action No. 82-0192 that defines the permissible areas of operations for the Bell Operating companies;

(30) "Local exchange telecommunications company", any company engaged in the provision of local exchange telecommunications service. A local exchange telecommunications company shall be considered a "large local exchange telecommunications company" if it has at least one hundred thousand access lines in Missouri and a "small local exchange telecommunications company" if it has less than one hundred thousand access lines in Missouri;

(31) "Local exchange telecommunications service", telecommunications service between points within an exchange;

(32) "Long-run incremental cost", the change in total costs of the company of producing an increment of output in the long run when the company uses least cost technology, and excluding any costs that, in the long run, are not brought into existence as a direct result of the increment of output. The relevant increment of output shall be the level of output necessary to satisfy total current demand levels for the service in question, or, for new services, demand levels that can be demonstrably anticipated;

(33) "Municipality" includes a city, village or town;

(34) "Nonbasic telecommunications services" shall be all regulated telecommunications services other than basic local and exchange access telecommunications services, and shall include the services identified in paragraphs (d) and (e) of subdivision (4) of this section. Any retail telecommunications service offered for the first time after August 28, 1996, shall be classified as a nonbasic telecommunications service, including any new service which does not replace an existing service;

(35) "Noncompetitive telecommunications company", a telecommunications company other than a competitive telecommunications company or a transitionally competitive telecommunications company;

(36) "Noncompetitive telecommunications service", a telecommunications service other than a competitive or transitionally competitive telecommunications service;

(37) "Operator services", operator-assisted interexchange telecommunications service by means of either human or automated call intervention and includes, but is not limited to, billing or completion of calling card, collect, person-to-person, station-to-station or third number billed calls;

(38) "Operator services contract", any agreement between a traffic aggregator and a certificated interexchange telecommunications company to provide operator services at a traffic aggregator location;

(39) "Person" includes an individual, and a firm or copartnership;

(40) "Private shared tenant services" includes the provision of telecommunications and information management services and equipment within a user group located in discrete private premises as authorized by the commission by a commercial-shared services provider or by a user association, through privately owned customer premises equipment and associated data processing and information management services and includes the provision of connections to the facilities of local exchange telecommunications companies and to interexchange telecommunications companies;

(41) "Private telecommunications system", a telecommunications system controlled by a person or corporation for the sole and exclusive use of such person, corporation or legal or corporate affiliate thereof;

(42) "Public utility" includes every pipeline corporation, gas corporation, electrical corporation, telecommunications company, water corporation, heat or refrigerating corporation, and sewer corporation, as these terms are defined in this section, and each thereof is hereby declared to be a public utility and to be subject to the jurisdiction, control and regulation of the commission and to the provisions of this chapter;

(43) "Railroad" includes every railroad and railway, other than street railroad or light rail, by whatsoever power operated for public use in the conveyance of persons or property for compensation, with all bridges, ferries, tunnels, equipment, switches, spurs, tracks, stations, real estate and terminal facilities of every kind used, operated, controlled or owned by or in connection with any such railroad;

(44) "Railroad corporation" includes every corporation, company, association, joint stock company or association, partnership and person, their lessees, trustees or receivers appointed by any court whatsoever, owning, holding, operating, controlling or managing any railroad or railway as defined in this section, or any cars or other equipment used thereon or in connection therewith;

(45) "Rate", every individual or joint rate, fare, toll, charge, reconsigning charge, switching charge, rental or other compensation of any corporation, person or public utility, or any two or more such individual or joint rates, fares, tolls, charges, reconsigning charges, switching charges, rentals or other compensations of any corporation, person or public utility or any schedule or tariff thereof;

(46) "Resale of telecommunications service", the offering or providing of telecommunications service primarily through the use of services or facilities owned or provided

by a separate telecommunications company, but does not include the offering or providing of private shared tenant services;

(47) "Service" includes not only the use and accommodations afforded consumers or patrons, but also any product or commodity furnished by any corporation, person or public utility and the plant, equipment, apparatus, appliances, property and facilities employed by any corporation, person or public utility in performing any service or in furnishing any product or commodity and devoted to the public purposes of such corporation, person or public utility, and to the use and accommodation of consumers or patrons;

(48) "Sewer corporation" includes every corporation, company, association, joint stock company or association, partnership or person, their lessees, trustees or receivers appointed by any court, owning, operating, controlling or managing any sewer system, plant or property, for the collection, carriage, treatment, or disposal of sewage anywhere within the state for gain, except that the term shall not include sewer systems with fewer than twenty-five outlets;

(49) "Sewer system" includes all pipes, pumps, canals, lagoons, plants, structures and appliances, and all other real estate, fixtures and personal property, owned, operated, controlled or managed in connection with or to facilitate the collection, carriage, treatment and disposal of sewage for municipal, domestic or other beneficial or necessary purpose;

(50) "Street railroad" includes every railroad by whatsoever type of power operated, and all extensions and branches thereof and supplementary facilities thereto by whatsoever type of vehicle operated, for public use in the conveyance of persons or property for compensation, mainly providing local transportation service upon the streets, highways and public places in a municipality, or in and adjacent to a municipality, and including all cars, buses and other rolling stock, equipment, switches, spurs, tracks, poles, wires, conduits, cables, subways, tunnels, stations, terminals and real estate of every kind used, operated or owned in connection therewith but this term shall not include light rail as defined in this section; and the term "street railroad" when used in this chapter, shall also include all motor bus and trolley bus lines and routes and similar local transportation facilities, and the rolling stock and other equipment thereof and the appurtenances thereto, when operated as a part of a street railroad or trolley bus local transportation system, or in conjunction therewith or supplementary thereto, but such term shall not include a railroad constituting or used as part of a trunk line railroad system and any street railroad as defined above which shall be converted wholly to motor bus operation shall nevertheless continue to be included within the term "street railroad" as used herein;

(51) "Telecommunications company" includes telephone corporations as that term is used in the statutes of this state and every corporation, company, association, joint stock company or association, partnership and person, their lessees, trustees or receivers appointed by any court whatsoever, owning, operating, controlling or managing any facilities used to provide

telecommunications service for hire, sale or resale within this state;

(52) "Telecommunications facilities" includes lines, conduits, ducts, poles, wires, cables, crossarms, receivers, transmitters, instruments, machines, appliances and all devices, real estate, easements, apparatus, property and routes used, operated, controlled or owned by any telecommunications company to facilitate the provision of telecommunications service;

(53) "Telecommunications service", the transmission of information by wire, radio, optical cable, electronic impulses, or other similar means. As used in this definition, "information" means knowledge or intelligence represented by any form of writing, signs, signals, pictures, sounds, or any other symbols. Telecommunications service does not include:

(a) The rent, sale, lease, or exchange for other value received of customer premises equipment except for customer premises equipment owned by a telephone company certificated or otherwise authorized to provide telephone service prior to September 28, 1987, and provided under tariff or in inventory on January 1, 1983, which must be detariffed no later than December 31, 1987, and thereafter the provision of which shall not be a telecommunications service, and except for customer premises equipment owned or provided by a telecommunications company and used for answering 911 or emergency calls;

(b) Answering services and paging services;

(c) The offering of radio communication services and facilities when such services and facilities are provided under a license granted by the Federal Communications Commission under the commercial mobile radio services rules and regulations;

(d) Services provided by a hospital, hotel, motel, or other similar business whose principal service is the provision of temporary lodging through the owning or operating of message switching or billing equipment solely for the purpose of providing at a charge telecommunications services to its temporary patients or guests;

(e) Services provided by a private telecommunications system;

(f) Cable television service;

(g) The installation and maintenance of inside wire within a customer's premises;

(h) Electronic publishing services; or

(I) Services provided pursuant to a broadcast radio or television license issued by the Federal Communications Commission;

(54) "Telephone cooperative", every corporation defined as a telecommunications company in this section, in which at least ninety percent of those persons and corporations subscribing to receive local telecommunications service from the corporation own at least ninety percent of the corporation's outstanding and issued capital stock and in which no subscriber owns more than two shares of the corporation's outstanding and issued capital stock;

(55) "Traffic aggregator", any person, firm, partnership or corporation which furnishes

a telephone for use by the public and includes, but is not limited to, telephones located in rooms, offices and similar locations in hotels, motels, hospitals, colleges, universities, airports and public or customer-owned pay telephone locations, whether or not coin operated;

(56) "Transitionally competitive telecommunications company", an interexchange telecommunications company which provides any noncompetitive or transitionally competitive telecommunications service, except for an interexchange telecommunications company which provides only noncompetitive telecommunications service;

(57) "Transitionally competitive telecommunications service", a telecommunications service offered by a noncompetitive or transitionally competitive telecommunications company and classified as transitionally competitive by the commission pursuant to section 392.361 or 392.370, RSMo;

(58) "Water corporation" includes every corporation, company, association, joint stock company or association, partnership and person, their lessees, trustees, or receivers appointed by any court whatsoever, owning, operating, controlling or managing any plant or property, dam or water supply, canal, or power station, distributing or selling for distribution, or selling or supplying for gain any water;

(59) "Water system" includes all reservoirs, tunnels, shafts, dams, dikes, headgates, pipes, flumes, canals, structures and appliances, and all other real estate, fixtures and personal property, owned, operated, controlled or managed in connection with or to facilitate the diversion, development, storage, supply, distribution, sale, furnishing or carriage of water for municipal, domestic or other beneficial use.

392.200. 1. Every telecommunications company shall furnish and provide with respect to its business such instrumentalities and facilities as shall be adequate and in all respects just and reasonable. All charges made and demanded by any telecommunications company for any service rendered or to be rendered in connection therewith shall be just and reasonable and not more than allowed by law or by order or decision of the commission. Every unjust or unreasonable charge made or demanded for any such service or in connection therewith or in excess of that allowed by law or by order or decision of the commission is prohibited and declared to be unlawful.

2. No telecommunications company shall directly or indirectly or by any special rate, rebate, drawback or other device or method charge, demand, collect or receive from any person or corporation a greater or less compensation for any service rendered or to be rendered with respect to telecommunications or in connection therewith, except as authorized in this chapter, than it charges, demands, collects or receives from any other person or corporation for doing a like and contemporaneous service with respect to telecommunications under the same or substantially the same circumstances and conditions. Promotional programs for

telecommunications services may be offered by telecommunications companies for periods of time so long as the offer is otherwise consistent with the provisions of this chapter and approved by the commission. Neither this subsection nor subsection 3 of this section shall be construed to prohibit an economy rate telephone service offering. This section and section 392.220 to the contrary notwithstanding, the commission is authorized to approve tariffs filed by local exchange telecommunications companies which elect to provide reduced charges for residential telecommunications connection services pursuant to the lifeline connection assistance plan as promulgated by the federal communications commission. Eligible subscribers for such connection services shall be those as defined by participating local exchange telecommunications company tariffs.

3. No telecommunications company shall make or give any undue or unreasonable preference or advantage to any person, corporation or locality, or subject any particular person, corporation or locality to any undue or unreasonable prejudice or disadvantage in any respect whatsoever except that telecommunications messages may be classified into such classes as are just and reasonable, and different rates may be charged for the different classes of messages.

4. (1) No telecommunications company may define a telecommunications service as a different telecommunications service based on the geographic area or other market segmentation within which such telecommunications service is offered or provided, unless the telecommunications company makes application and files a tariff or tariffs which propose relief from this subsection. Any such tariff shall be subject to the provisions of sections 392.220 and 392.230 and in any hearing thereon the burden shall be on the telecommunications company to show, by clear and convincing evidence, that the definition of such service based on the geographic area or other market within which such service is offered is reasonably necessary to promote the public interest and the purposes and policies of this chapter.

(2) It is the intent of this act to bring the benefits of competition to all customers and to ensure that incumbent and alternative local exchange telecommunications companies have the opportunity to price and market telecommunications services to all prospective customers in any geographic area in which they compete. To promote the goals of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, for an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company in any exchange where an alternative local exchange telecommunications company has been certified and is providing basic local telecommunications services or switched exchange access services, or for an alternative local exchange telecommunications company, the commission shall review and approve or reject, within forty-five days of filing, tariffs for proposed different services as follows:

(a) For services proposed on an exchangewide basis, it shall be presumed that a tariff which defines and establishes prices for a local exchange telecommunications service or exchange access service as a different telecommunications service in the geographic area, no smaller than an exchange, within which such local exchange telecommunications service or exchange access service is offered is reasonably necessary to promote the public interest and the purposes and policies of this chapter;

(b) For services proposed in a geographic area smaller than an exchange or other market segmentation within which or to whom such telecommunications service is proposed to be offered, a local exchange telecommunications company may petition the commission to define and establish a local exchange telecommunications service or exchange access service as a different local exchange telecommunications service or exchange access service. The commission shall approve such a proposal **[**if**] unless** it finds**[**, based upon clear and convincing evidence,**]** that such service in a smaller geographic area or such other market segmentation is **[**in**] contrary to** the public interest **[**and is reasonably necessary to promote competition and**] or is contrary to** the purposes of this chapter. Upon approval of such a smaller geographic area or such other market segmentation for a different service for one local exchange telecommunications company, all other local exchange telecommunications companies certified to provide service in that exchange may file a tariff to use such smaller geographic area or such other market segmentation to provide that service;

(c) For proposed different services described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subdivision, the local exchange telecommunications company which files a tariff to provide such service shall provide the service to all similarly situated customers, upon request in accordance with that company's approved tariff, in the exchange or geographic area smaller than an exchange or such other market segmentation for which the tariff was filed, and no price proposed for such service by an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company, other than for a competitive service, shall be lower than its long-run incremental cost, as defined in section 386.020, RSMo;

(3) The commission, on its own motion or upon motion of the public counsel, may by order, after notice and hearing, define a telecommunications service offered or provided by a telecommunications company as a different telecommunications service dependent upon the geographic area or other market within which such telecommunications service is offered or provided and apply different service classifications to such service only upon a finding, based on clear and convincing evidence, that such different treatment is reasonably necessary to promote the public interest and the purposes and policies of this chapter.

5. No telecommunications company may charge a different price per minute or other unit of measure for the same, substitutable, or equivalent interexchange telecommunications service provided over the same or equivalent distance between two points without filing a tariff for the offer or provision of such service pursuant to sections 392.220 and 392.230. In any proceeding

under sections 392.220 and 392.230 wherein a telecommunications company seeks to charge a different price per minute or other unit of measure for the same, substitutable, or equivalent interexchange service, the burden shall be on the subject telecommunications company to show that such charges are in the public interest and consistent with the provisions and purposes of this chapter. The commission may modify or prohibit such charges if the subject telecommunications company fails to show that such charges are in the public interest and consistent with the provisions and purposes of this chapter. This subsection shall not apply to reasonable price discounts based on the volume of service provided, so long as such discounts are nondiscriminatory and offered under the same rates, terms, and conditions throughout a telecommunications company's certificated or service area.

6. Every telecommunications company operating in this state shall receive, transmit and deliver, without discrimination or delay, the conversations and messages of every other telecommunications company with whose facilities a connection may have been made.

7. The commission shall have power to provide the limits within which telecommunications messages shall be delivered without extra charge.

8. Customer-specific pricing is authorized **on an equal basis for incumbent and alternative local exchange companies** for**:**

(1) Dedicated, nonswitched, private line and special access services **[**and for**];**

(2) Central office-based switching systems which substitute for customer premise, private branch exchange (PBX) services**[**, provided such customer specific pricing shall be equally available to incumbent and alternative local exchange telecommunications companies**]; and**

(3) All services in an exchange which have been declared competitive under the provisions of subsection 5 of section 392.245.

9. This act shall not be construed to prohibit the commission, upon determining that it is in the public interest, from altering local exchange boundaries, provided that the incumbent local exchange telecommunications company or companies serving each exchange for which the boundaries are altered provide notice to the commission that the companies approve the alteration of exchange boundaries.

10. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, every telecommunications company is authorized to offer term agreements of up to five years on any of its telecommunications services.

11. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, every telecommunications company is authorized to offer discounted rates or **[**other**]** special promotions on any of its telecommunications services to any **existing,** new**,** and/or former customers.

12. Packages of services may be offered on an equal basis by incumbent and

alternative local exchange companies and shall not be subject to regulation under section 392.240 or 392.245, nor shall packages of services be subject to the provisions of subsections 1 to 5 of this section, provided that any telecommunications service included in a package is available apart from the package of services. For the purposes of this subsection, a package of services includes more than one telecommunications service or a telecommunications service combined with one or more nontelecommunications services.

392.245. 1. The commission shall have the authority to ensure that rates, charges, tolls and rentals for telecommunications services are just, reasonable and lawful by employing price cap regulation. **Any rate, charge, toll, or rental that does not exceed the maximum allowable price under this section shall be deemed to be just, reasonable, and lawful.** As used in this chapter, "price cap regulation" shall mean establishment of maximum allowable prices for telecommunications services offered by an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company, which maximum allowable prices shall not be subject to increase except as otherwise provided in this section.

2. A large incumbent local exchange telecommunications company shall be subject to regulation under this section upon a determination by the commission that an alternative local exchange telecommunications company has been certified to provide basic local telecommunications service and is providing such service in any part of the large incumbent company's service area. A small incumbent local exchange telecommunications company may elect to be regulated under this section upon providing written notice to the commission if an alternative local exchange telecommunications company has been certified to provide basic local telecommunications service and is providing such service**, or if two or more commercial mobile service providers providing wireless two-way voice communications services, are providing services,** in any part of the small incumbent company's service area, and the incumbent company shall remain subject to regulation under this section after such election.

3. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the maximum allowable prices established for a company under subsection 1 of this section shall be those in effect on December thirty-first of the year preceding the year in which the company is first subject to regulation under this section. Tariffs authorized under subsection 9 of this section shall be phased in as provided under such tariffs as approved by the commission.

4. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsections 8 and 9 of this section and section 392.248, the maximum allowable prices for exchange access and basic local telecommunications services of a small, incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section shall not be changed for a period of twelve months after the date the company is subject to regulation under this section. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 8 and 9 of this section and section 392.248, the maximum allowable prices for exchange access and basic local

telecommunications services of a large, incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section shall not be changed prior to January 1, 2000. Thereafter, the maximum allowable prices for exchange access and basic local telecommunications services of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company shall be annually changed by one of the following methods:

(a) By the change in the telephone service component of the Consumer Price Index (CPI-TS), as published by the United States Department of Commerce or its successor agency for the preceding twelve months; or

(b) Upon request by the company and approval by the commission, by the change in the Gross Domestic Product Price Index (GDP-PI), as published by the United States Department of Commerce or its successor agency for the preceding twelve months, minus the productivity offset established for telecommunications service by the Federal Communication Commission and adjusted for exogenous factors;

(2) The commission shall approve a change to a maximum allowable price filed pursuant to paragraph (a) of subdivision (1) of this subsection within forty-five days of filing of notice by the local exchange telecommunications company. An incumbent local exchange telecommunications company shall file a tariff to reduce the rates charged for any service in any case in which the current rate exceeds the maximum allowable price established under this subsection.

(3) As a part of its request under paragraph (b) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, a company may seek commission approval to use a different productivity offset in lieu of the productivity offset established by the Federal Communication Commission. An adjustment under paragraph (b) of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not be implemented if the commission determines, after notice and hearing to be conducted within forty-five days of the filing of the notice of a change to a maximum allowable price, that it is not in the public interest. In making such a determination, the commission shall consider the relationship of the proposed price of service to its cost and the impact of competition on the incumbent local exchange telecommunications company's intrastate revenues from regulated telecommunications services. Any adjustments for exogenous factors shall be allocated to the maximum allowable prices for exchange access and basic local telecommunications service in the same percentage as the revenues for such company bears to such company's total revenues from basic local, nonbasic and exchange access services for the preceding twelve months.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the term "exogenous factor" shall mean a cumulative impact on a local exchange telecommunications company's intrastate regulated revenue requirement of more than three percent, which is attributable to federal, state or local government laws, regulations or policies which change the revenue, expense or investment of the company,

and the term "exogenous factor" shall not include the effect of competition on the revenue, expense or investment of the company nor shall the term include any assessment made under section 392.248.

(5) An incumbent local exchange telecommunications company may change the rates for its services, consistent with the provisions of **subsections 2 to 5 of** section 392.200, but not to exceed the maximum allowable prices, by filing tariffs which shall be approved by the commission within thirty days, provided that any such rate is not in excess of the maximum allowable price established for such service under this section.

5. Each telecommunications service **offered to business customers, other than exchange access service,** of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company **regulated under this section** shall be classified as competitive in any exchange in which at least **[**one alternative local exchange telecommunications company has been certified under section 392.455 and has provided basic local telecommunications service in that exchange for at least five years, unless the commission determines, after notice and a hearing, that effective competition does not exist in the exchange for such service. The commission shall, from time to time, on its own motion or motion by an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company, investigate the state of competition in each exchange where an alternative local exchange telecommunication company has been certified to provide local exchange telecommunications service and shall determine, no later than five years following the first certification of an alternative local exchange telecommunication company in such exchange, whether effective competition exists in the exchange for the various services of the incumbent local exchange telecommunications company**] two nonaffiliated entities are providing basic local telecommunications service to business customers within the exchange. Each telecommunications service offered to residential customers, other than exchange access service, of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section shall be classified as competitive in an exchange in which at least two nonaffiliated entities are providing basic local telecommunications service to residential customers within the exchange. For purposes of this section:**

(1) Commercial mobile service providers as identified in 47 U.S.C. Section 331(d)(1) and 47 C.F.R. Parts 22 or 24 shall be considered as entities providing basic local telecommunications service, provided that only one such nonaffiliated provider shall be considered as providing basic local telecommunications service within an exchange;

(2) Any entity providing local voice service shall be considered as a basic local telecommunications service provider regardless of whether such entity is subject to regulation by the commission;

(3) Regardless of the technology utilized, local voice service shall mean two-way

voice service capable of being originated and terminated within the exchange of the incumbent local exchange telecommunications company seeking competitive classification of its services; and

(4) Telecommunications companies only offering prepaid telecommunications service shall not be considered entities providing basic telecommunications service; and

(5) Prepaid telecommunications service shall mean a local service for which payment is made in advance that excludes access to operator assistance and long distance service.

Upon request of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company seeking competitive classification of business service or residential service, or both, the commission shall, within thirty days of the request, determine whether the requisite number of entities are providing basic local telecommunications service to business or residential customers, or both, in an exchange and if so, shall approve tariffs designating all such business or residential services other than exchange access service, as competitive within such exchange. If the **[**commission determines that effective competition exists in the exchange**]** **services of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company are classified as competitive under this subsection**, the local exchange telecommunications company may thereafter adjust its rates for such competitive services upward or downward as it determines appropriate in its competitive environment**, upon filing tariffs which shall become effective within the timelines identified in section 392.500**. **[**If the commission determines that effective competition does not exist in the exchange, the provisions of paragraph (c) of subdivision (2) of subsection 4 of section 392.200 and the maximum allowable prices established by the provisions of subsections 4 and 11 of this section shall continue to apply.**]** The commission shall from time to time, but no less than every five years, review **[**the state of competition in**]** those exchanges where **[**it has previously found the existence of effective competition,**]** **an incumbent local exchange carrier's services have been classified as competitive, to determine if the conditions of this subsection for competitive classification continue to exist in the exchange** and if the commission determines, after hearing, that **[**effective competition**]** **such conditions** no longer **[**exists**]** **exist** for the incumbent local exchange telecommunications company in such exchange, it shall reimpose upon the incumbent local exchange telecommunications company, in such exchange, the provisions of paragraph (c) of subdivision (2) of subsection 4 of section 392.200 and the maximum allowable prices established by the provisions of subsections 4 and 11 of this section, and, in any such case, the maximum allowable prices established for the telecommunications services of such incumbent local exchange telecommunications company shall reflect all index adjustments which were or could have been filed from all preceding years since the company's maximum allowable prices were first adjusted pursuant to subsection 4 or 11 of this section.

6. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to alter the commission's jurisdiction over quality and conditions of service or to relieve telecommunications companies from the obligation to comply with commission rules relating to minimum basic local and interexchange telecommunications service.

7. A company regulated under this section shall not be subject to regulation under subsection 1 of section 392.240.

8. An incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section may reduce intrastate access rates, including carrier common line charges, subject to the provisions of subsection 9 of this section, to a level not to exceed one hundred fifty percent of the company's interstate rates for similar access services in effect as of December thirty-first of the year preceding the year in which the company is first subject to regulation under this section. Absent commission action under subsection 10 of this section, an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section **[**shall have four years from the date the company becomes subject to regulation under this section to make the adjustments authorized**] is authorized to make up to six annual adjustments as provided** under this subsection and subsection 9 of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall preclude an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company from establishing its intrastate access rates at a level lower than one hundred fifty percent of the company's interstate rates for similar access services in effect as of December thirty-first of the year preceding the year in which the company is first subject to regulation under this section.

9. Other provisions of this section to the contrary notwithstanding and no earlier than January 1, 1997, the commission shall allow an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section which reduces its intrastate access service rates pursuant to subsection 8 of this section to offset the revenue loss resulting from **[**the first year's**] each** access service rate reduction by increasing its monthly maximum allowable prices applicable to basic local exchange telecommunications services by an amount not to exceed one dollar fifty cents **per annual adjustment**. A large incumbent local exchange telecommunications company shall not increase its monthly rates applicable to basic local telecommunications service under this subsection unless it also reduces its rates for intraLATA interexchange telecommunications services by at least ten percent. **[**No later than one year after the date the incumbent local exchange telecommunications company becomes subject to regulation under this section, the commission shall complete an investigation of the cost justification for the reduction of intrastate access rates and the increase of maximum allowable prices for basic local telecommunications service. If the commission determines that the company's monthly maximum allowable average

statewide prices for basic local telecommunications service after adjustment pursuant to this subsection will be equal to or less than the long run incremental cost, as defined in section 386.020, RSMo, of providing basic local telecommunications service and that the company's intrastate access rates after adjustment pursuant to this subsection will exceed the long run incremental cost, as defined in section 386.020, RSMo, of providing intrastate access services, the commission shall allow the company to offset the revenue loss resulting from the remaining three- quarters of the total needed to bring that company's intrastate access rates to one hundred fifty percent of the interstate level by increasing the company's monthly maximum allowable prices applicable to basic local telecommunications service by an amount not to exceed one dollar fifty cents on each of the next three anniversary dates thereafter; otherwise, the commission shall order the reduction of intrastate access rates and the increase of monthly maximum allowable prices for basic local telecommunications services to be terminated at the levels the commission determines to be cost-justified.**]** The total revenue increase due to the increase to the monthly maximum allowable prices for basic local telecommunications service shall not exceed the total revenue loss resulting from the reduction to intrastate access service rates.

10. Any telecommunications company whose intrastate access costs are reduced pursuant to subsections 8 and 9 of this section shall decrease its rates for intrastate toll telecommunications service to flow through such reduced costs to its customers. The commission may permit a telecommunications company to defer a rate reduction required by this subdivision until such reductions, on a cumulative basis, reach a level that is practical to flow through to its customers.

11. The maximum allowable prices for nonbasic telecommunications services of a small, incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section shall not be changed until twelve months after the date the company is subject to regulation under this section or, on an exchange-by-exchange basis, until an alternative local exchange telecommunications company is certified and providing basic local telecommunications service in such exchange, whichever is earlier. The maximum allowable prices for nonbasic telecommunications services of a large, incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section shall not be changed until January 1, 1999, or on an exchange-by-exchange basis, until an alternative local exchange telecommunications company is certified and providing basic local telecommunications service in such exchange, whichever is earlier. Thereafter, the maximum allowable prices for nonbasic telecommunications services of an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company may be annually increased by up to eight percent for each of the following twelve-month periods upon providing notice to the commission and filing tariffs establishing the rates for such services in such exchanges at such

maximum allowable prices. This subsection shall not preclude an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company from proposing new telecommunications services and establishing prices for such new services. An incumbent local exchange telecommunications company may change the rates for its services, consistent with the provisions of **subsections 2 to 5 of** section 392.200, but not to exceed the maximum allowable prices, by filing tariffs which shall be approved by the commission within thirty days, provided that any such rate is not in excess of the maximum allowable price established for such service under this section.

12. The commission shall permit an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section to determine and set its own depreciation rates which shall be used for all intrastate regulatory purposes. Provided, however, that such a determination is not binding on the commission in determining eligibility for or reimbursement under the universal service fund established under section 392.248.

13. Nothing in this section shall preclude an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company from proposing new telecommunications services and establishing prices for such new services. Any telecommunications service first offered after September 1, 2005, by an incumbent local exchange telecommunications company regulated under this section shall be deemed competitive and tariffs establishing the service shall become effective within ten days and any subsequent price changes for such service shall become effective consistent with the provisions of section 392.500.

392.500. **[**Except as provided in section 392.200,**]** Proposed changes in rates or charges, or any classification or tariff provision affecting rates or charges, for any competitive telecommunications service, shall be treated pursuant to this section as follows:

(1) Any proposed decrease in rates or charges, or proposed change in any classification or tariff resulting in a decrease in rates or charges, for any competitive telecommunications service shall be permitted only upon the filing of the proposed rate, charge, classification or tariff after seven days' notice to the commission; and

(2) Any proposed increase in rates or charges, or proposed change in any classification or tariff resulting in an increase in rates or charges, for any competitive telecommunications service shall be permitted only upon the filing of the proposed rate, charge, classification or tariff and upon notice to all potentially affected customers through a notice in each such customer's bill at least ten days prior to the date for implementation of such increase or change, or, where such customers are not billed, by an equivalent means of prior notice.