

House Concurrent Resolution No. 30

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5246L.011

1 **Whereas**, competition in the voice communications industry is developing rapidly
2 and is widespread in the State of Missouri; and
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4 **Whereas**, Missouri law governing the telecommunications industry must evolve
5 to meet the needs of Missouri consumers; and
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7 **Whereas**, consumer choice in voice communications is available through the
8 traditional wireline, wireless, cable, and interconnected voice over Internet protocol industries;
9 and
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11 **Whereas**, the methodology by which carriers are compensated for the use of their
12 network is, by its nature, complex, detailed, and inter-related to numerous other economic forces;
13 and
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15 **Whereas**, the need to make equitable changes in the inter-carrier compensation
16 regime will require a comprehensive, holistic, and deliberate approach to reform; and
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18 **Whereas**, due to the complex nature of inter-carrier compensation, comprehensive
19 study and discussion is required; and
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21 **Whereas**, a forum for review and discussion between these very competitive
22 industries will aid in addressing the concerns of both the industry and consumers:
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24 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** by the members of the House of
25 Representatives of the Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
26 concurring therein, that to ensure that thoughtful and necessary changes to the regulation of voice
27 communications in Missouri and the need to protect Missouri consumers and provide them with
28 more communications choices, the General Assembly must endeavor to comprehensively study
29 further the matters detailed herein; and

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31 **Be it further resolved** that the Speaker of the House of Representatives and
32 the President Pro Tempore of the Senate appoint a Joint Interim Committee on Voice
33 Communications Regulation that is authorized to function during the legislative interim between
34 the Second Regular Session of the Ninety-fourth General Assembly and the First Regular Session
35 of the Ninety-fifth General Assembly to study the following:

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37 (1) The need to make changes to the inter-carrier compensation system wherein voice
38 communications providers exchange traffic on other provider's networks; and

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40 (2) Such other matters as the Joint Interim Committee may deem necessary in order to
41 determine the proper course of future legislative and budgetary action regarding inter-carrier
42 compensation; and

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44 **Be it further resolved** that the Joint Interim Committee shall prepare a final
45 report, together with its recommendations for any legislative action deemed necessary for
46 submission to the General Assembly prior to commencement of the First Regular Session of the
47 Ninety-fifth General Assembly; and

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49 **Be it further resolved** that the Joint Interim Committee may solicit input
50 and information necessary to fulfill its obligations, including but not limited to soliciting input
51 and information from any state department or agency the Joint Interim Committee deems
52 relevant, consumer advocates, political subdivisions of this State, and the general public; and

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54 **Be it further resolved** that the staffs of House Research, the Joint
55 Committee on Legislative Research, and Senate Research shall provide such legal, research,

56 clerical, technical, and bill drafting services as the Joint Interim Committee may require in the
57 performance of its duties; and

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59 **Be it further resolved** that the actual and necessary expenses of the Joint
60 Interim Committee, its members, and any staff assigned to the Joint Interim Committee incurred
61 by the Joint Interim Committee shall be paid by the Joint Contingent Fund.

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