AN ACT concerning telecommunications.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Public Utilities Act is amended by changing Section 13-409 as added by Public Act 93-5 as follows:

(220 ILCS 5/13-409)

Sec. 13-409. Application of Sec. 13-408 unbundled network element rates.

- (a) During the first 2 years following the effective date of Section 13-408, for the first 35,000 voice grade equivalent access lines used by an individual carrier to provide local exchange service to end users, the monthly recurring rate for the unbundled network elements associated with those lines and leased from an incumbent local exchange carrier to which Section 13-408 applies shall be frozen at the levels in effect immediately prior to the effective date of Section 13-408.
- (b) Thereafter, the monthly recurring rates for all unbundled network elements provided by any incumbent local exchange carrier to which Section 13-408 applies shall be the rates established by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Section 13-408.
- (c) If, as of the effective date of Section 13-408 and this Section, an individual telecommunications carrier uses unbundled network elements leased from a specific incumbent local exchange carrier to provide local exchange service over more than 35,000 voice grade equivalent access lines, that carrier must designate the 35,000 voice grade equivalent access lines to which the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this Section apply. If subsequent to such designation,

the individual carrier loses the customer served by a designated access line, and therefore no longer leases the unbundled network elements associated with that line, the individual carrier may not designate a different access line to substitute for the lost line. All unbundled network elements leased to provide service over undesignated voice grade equivalent access lines shall be subject to the full monthly recurring rates established by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Section 13-408.

- (d) If, as of the effective date of this Section, individual carrier uses unbundled network elements leased from a specific local exchange carrier to provide local exchange service over fewer than 35,000 voice grade equivalent access lines, that carrier must designate the lines to which the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this Section apply. If subsequent to such designation, the individual carrier loses the customer served by a designated access line, and therefore no longer leases the unbundled network elements associated with that line, the individual carrier may not designate a different access line t.o substitute for the lost line. Subject to these limitations, subsequent to the effective date of Section, such a carrier may designate additional voice grade equivalent access lines to which it wishes the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of this Section to apply, until the total designated lines equal 35,000. If a subsequently designated line is lost, the carrier will not be permitted to designate a different line to substitute for that lost line. All unbundled network elements leased to provide service over undesignated voice grade equivalent access lines shall be subject to the full monthly recurring rates established by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Section 13-408.
  - (e) For purposes of this Section, in determining when an

individual telecommunications carrier has reached 35,000 voice grade equivalent access lines, a specific carrier, any affiliate of that carrier, any carrier serving as a sales or marketing agent for that carrier, and any carrier with whom that carrier has a cooperative sales or marketing arrangement all shall be treated as a single individual carrier.

(f) (Blank). Notwithstanding--any--other--provisions-of this-Section,--access--lines--provided--to--payphone--service providers--are--not--eligible--for--the--freeze--or--discount provided--for--in--subsections--(a)--and-(b)-of-this-Section. Accordingly,-the-provisions-of-subsections-(a)-and-(b)--shall not--apply--to--unbundled-network-elements-that-are-leased-by individual--telecommunications--carriers--to--provide---local exchange-service-to-payphone-service-providers.

(Source: P.A. 93-5, eff. 5-09-03.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.