

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced 2/6/2004, by Monique D. Davis

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

55 ILCS 5/5-1096.5 new 65 ILCS 5/11-42-11.2 new

Amends the Counties Code and the Illinois Municipal Code. Provides that a community antenna television franchisee may not terminate service to any customer unless the franchisee first sends written notice of termination to the customer through the U.S. mail, return receipt requested, which states the date of the termination. Provides that the franchisee must provide a refund to each customer that is subject to a service interruption caused by conditions that are in the franchisee's control. Provides that no franchisee may charge more than \$50 per month for any cable service.

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AN ACT concerning the regulation of cable television.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by adding Section
5 5-1096.5 as follows:

6 (55 ILCS 5/5-1096.5 new)

7 <u>Sec. 5-1096.5.</u> Community antenna television systems; 8 consumer protection.

9 <u>(a) A community antenna television franchisee may not</u> 10 <u>terminate service to any customer unless the franchisee sends</u> 11 <u>written notice of termination to the customer through the U.S.</u> 12 <u>mail, return receipt requested. The notice must state which</u> 13 <u>date the service will be terminated, which may not be less than</u> 14 <u>10 days after the date that the customer receives the notice.</u>

15 (b) The franchisee must provide a refund to each customer that is subject to a service interruption caused by conditions 16 that are in the franchisee's control. The refund shall be for 17 the entire day on which the interruption occurs and for each 18 19 additional day the interruption continues. The refund shall apply to all services interrupted. In the case of an outage, 20 21 the franchisee must provide a refund regardless of whether the customer requests a refund or otherwise contacts the 22 franchisee. In the case of a service interruption that is not 23 part of an outage, the franchisee must provide a refund if the 24 25 customer requests a refund or otherwise contacts the franchisee 26 about the service interruption. Refund checks must be issued promptly, but no later than either (i) the customer's next 27 28 billing cycle following resolution of the request or 30 days, whichever is earlier, or (ii) upon the return of the equipment 29 30 supplied by the franchisee if the service is terminated.

31 (c) No franchisee may charge more than \$50 per month for 32 <u>any cable service.</u>

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Section 10. The Illinois Municipal Code is amended by
 adding Section 11-42-11.2 as follows:

(65 ILCS 5/11-42-11.2 new) 3 Sec. 11-42-11.2. Community antenna television systems; 4 5 consumer protection. (a) A community antenna television franchisee may not 6 7 terminate service to any customer unless the franchisee sends written notice of termination to the customer through the U.S. 8 mail, return receipt requested. The notice must state which 9 10 date the service will be terminated, which may not be less than 10 days after the date that the customer receives the notice. 11 (b) The franchisee must provide a refund to each customer 12 that is subject to a service interruption caused by conditions 13 14 that are in the franchisee's control. The refund shall be for 15 the entire day on which the interruption occurs and for each additional day the interruption continues. The refund shall 16 apply to all services interrupted. In the case of an outage, 17 18 the franchisee must provide a refund regardless of whether the customer requests a refund or otherwise contacts the 19 franchisee. In the case of a service interruption that is not 20 21 part of an outage, the franchisee must provide a refund if the customer requests a refund or otherwise contacts the franchisee 22 about the service interruption. Refund checks must be issued 23 promptly, but no later than either (i) the customer's next 24 25 billing cycle following resolution of the request or 30 days, whichever is earlier, or (ii) upon the return of the equipment 26 supplied by the franchisee if the service is terminated. 27 (c) No franchisee may charge more than \$50 per month for 28

29 <u>any cable service</u>.