

**CHAPTER 101**

**(Senate Bill 103)**

AN ACT concerning

**Telecommunications Devices for Disabled Individuals**

FOR the purpose of specifying that the Universal Service Trust Fund shall underwrite the expenses of a certain program to assist in the purchase of specialized communications devices for disabled individuals; altering the eligibility requirements to be a program participant; making technical corrections; and generally relating to the Universal Service Trust Fund and the provision of telecommunications devices to disabled individuals.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article - State Finance and Procurement  
Section 4-1007, 4-1101, and 4-1103(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1995 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article - State Finance and Procurement**

4-1007.

(a) The [program] PROGRAMS UNDER ~~§ 4-1103(A)~~ §§ 4-1003 AND 4-1103(A) OF THIS TITLE shall be funded as provided in the State budget.

(b) There is a Universal Service Trust Fund created for the purpose of paying the costs of maintaining and operating the ~~{program}~~ PROGRAMS UNDER § 4-1103(A) UNDER § 4-1003 OF THIS TITLE subject to the limitations and controls provided in [this subtitle] ~~§ 4-1103(A)~~ SUBTITLE 10 OF THIS TITLE, AND THE PROGRAM UNDER § 4-1103(A) OF THIS TITLE SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS AND CONTROLS PROVIDED IN SUBTITLE 11 OF THIS TITLE. Moneys in the Universal Service Trust Fund shall be held in the State Treasury.

(c) (1) The costs of the [program] PROGRAMS UNDER ~~§ 4-1103(A)~~ §§ 4-1003 AND 4-1103(A) OF THIS TITLE shall be funded by revenues generated by a surcharge to be paid by the subscribers to switched local exchange access service and by other funds as the budget may provide.

(2) The surcharge may not exceed 45 cents per month and shall be applied to all current bills rendered for switched local exchange access service in the State. The surcharge is payable at the time the bills for telephone service are due.