

(3)] The Commission may not authorize telephone company charges to be levied for directory assistance upon any person who suffers from a physical or visual handicap that precludes the use of a telephone directory.

[(4)](3) The Commission may provide other exemptions FROM TELEPHONE COMPANY CHARGES TO BE LEVIED FOR DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE that are just and reasonable.

(c) (1) The Commission may not authorize any mandatory telephone company charges based on a measured time period unit rate for local messages.

(2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not preclude the Commission from any study or evaluation of mandatory telephone company charges.

(3) If the Commission authorizes any telephone company to offer to residential customers the option of telephone charges based on a measured time period unit rate for local messages, the Commission shall also require the telephone company to offer to residential customers:

(i) The option of an unlimited number and duration of local calls; and

(ii) The option of a specific charge per local call, regardless of the duration of the local call.

(4) Until December 1, 1985 a telephone company may not require the payment of an order processing charge or line change charge for a residential customer's first change to any type of local telephone service based on charges per call or measured time period unit rates.

(5) A telephone company may not require the payment of an order processing charge or line change charge for a residential customer's first change from local telephone service based on charges for measured time period unit rates, if the change occurs within 18 months of the date that the consumer elects this telephone service.

(6) The Public Service Commission may not authorize any telephone company to charge for the distance of a call within any local calling area.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1996.

Approved May 23, 1996.

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**CHAPTER 686**

**(House Bill 711)**

AN ACT concerning

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority – Changes in Fares, Rates, or Services – Public Hearings**