FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain telecommunications service providers from transferring a customer's account to another telecommunications service provider unless certain information is obtained from the customer by the telecommunications service provider to whom the customer's account is to be transferred telephone companies or resellers from changing, on behalf of a customer, the customer's telephone company or reseller or telecommunications service options unless the telephone company or reseller complies with certain authorization and confirmation procedures; requiring toll recellers to register each year on a certain form with the Public Service Commission; providing certain penalties providing for the application of this Act; imposing certain liabilities on a telephone company or reseller that initiates an unauthorized change in a customer's telephone company or reseller that provides toll services or a customer's telecommunications service options; requiring a telephone company or reseller to provide in a certain manner a certain notice to a customer informing the customer that certain changes have been made to the customer's telephone company or reseller or telecommunications service options under certain circumstances; authorizing the Commission to take certain actions against a telephone company or receller for certain violations; authorizing the Commission to adopt certain regulations; authorizing the Commission to assess a certain administrative penalty on a telephone company or reseller that violates this Act under certain circumstances; defining certain terms; and generally relating to changes in telecommunications service providers services.

FOR the purpose of prohibiting certain telephone companies and resellers from taking certain actions on behalf of a customer concerning the customer's selection of a telephone company or reseller, telecommunications service options, or the person who bills the customer or the customer's billing arrangement except in compliance with certain procedures; requiring certain notice to be provided to a telephone service customer under certain circumstances; requiring resellers to obtain a certain authorization from the Public Service Commission; imposing certain liabilities on a telephone company or reseller who initiates an unauthorized change in a customer's telephone company, reseller, or telecommunications service options or who initiates an unauthorized change in the person who bills the customer or the customer's billing arrangement; <u>requiring cer</u>tain telephone companies and resellers to offer a hold order or freeze to certain customers under certain circumstances; authorizing the Public Service Commission to adopt certain regulations; providing for a certain administrative penalty for certain violations; defining certain terms; and generally relating to changes in telecommunications service.

BY adding to

Article - Public Utility Companies

Section 8-401 through 8-404 8-410 8-409, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 4. Change in Telecommunications Service Provider Services Service Changes"

Annotated Code of Maryland (1998 Volume)