

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

Article - Public Utility Companies

~~SUBTITLE 4. CHANGE IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDER SERVICES.~~

~~8-401.~~

~~(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.~~

~~(B) "TOLL RESELLER" MEANS A PERSON WHO PROVIDES TOLL SERVICES OR TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TO END USE CUSTOMERS BY USING THE TRANSMISSION FACILITIES OF ANOTHER PERSON, INCLUDING WIRE, CABLE, OPTICAL FIBER, OR SATELLITE OR TERRESTRIAL RADIO SIGNALS, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE TOLL RESELLER POSSESSES ITS OWN SWITCHING FACILITIES.~~

~~(C) "TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE" MEANS ANY SERVICE OR PRODUCT PROVIDED BY A TELEPHONE COMPANY OR RESELLER THAT IS SUPPLIED BY WAY OF TRANSMISSION OVER TELEPHONE LINES.~~

~~(D) "TOLL SERVICE" MEANS A TYPE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE, COMMONLY KNOWN AS LONG DISTANCE SERVICE, THAT IS PROVIDED ON AN INTRASTATE BASIS BETWEEN LATAS AND WITHIN LATAS AND THAT IS:~~

~~(1) NOT INCLUDED AS A PART OF BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE, AND~~

~~(2) PROVIDED BETWEEN LOCAL CALLING AREAS.~~

SUBTITLE 4. TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE CHANGES.

8-401.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "HOLD ORDER" OR "FREEZE" MEANS A DIRECTIVE TO RETAIN:

(1) THE TELEPHONE COMPANY OR RESELLER SELECTED BY A CUSTOMER UNTIL THE CUSTOMER PROVIDES EXPRESS AUTHORIZATION FOR A CHANGE TO ANOTHER TELEPHONE COMPANY OR RESELLER;

(2) FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE OPTIONS FOR WHICH THE TELEPHONE COMPANY OR RESELLER IMPOSES A CHARGE, THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE OPTIONS SELECTED BY A CUSTOMER UNTIL THE CUSTOMER PROVIDES EXPRESS AUTHORIZATION FOR A CHANGE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE OPTIONS; OR

(3) THE PERSON WHO BILLS THE CUSTOMER OR THE CUSTOMER'S BILLING ARRANGEMENT UNTIL THE CUSTOMER PROVIDES EXPRESS