

(1) Develop the program in collaboration with State programs currently serving disabled individuals and with community agencies or other organizations that have established relay programs;

(2) ~~Implement~~ COMMENCE the program BY DECEMBER 31, 1991 AND FULLY IMPLEMENT IT throughout the State [within 2 years from the creation of the Board] ~~BY DECEMBER 31, 1991~~ JULY 1, 1992; and

(3) Maintain an information and referral service to provide information about the availability of the relay service.

(b) The Department of [Human Resources] GENERAL SERVICES in consultation with the Board may:

(1) Contract with a private vendor or nonprofit organization to provide the information and referral service required under subsection (a)(3) of this section; and

(2) Provide appropriate staff assistance from the Department of [Human Resources] GENERAL SERVICES to assist the Board in carrying out its duties under this subtitle.

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The Department of [Human Resources] GENERAL SERVICES in consultation with the Board shall adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of this subtitle.

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(A) The program 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 SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS AND CONTROLS PROVIDED IN THIS SUBTITLE. MONEYS IN THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE TRUST FUND SHALL BE HELD IN THE STATE TREASURY.

(C) (1) UNTIL ~~DECEMBER 31, 1993~~ JUNE 30, 1993, THE COSTS OF THE PROGRAM 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.

(D) (1) THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES SHALL ANNUALLY CERTIFY TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION THE COSTS OF THE PROGRAM TO BE PAID BY THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE TRUST FUND.