

HB 257 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0386

10/05

HOUSE BILL                    **257**

AN ACT                    relative to telephone carrier of last resort obligations.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Vose, Rock. 5; Rep. D. Thomas, Rock. 16; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Lang,  
Dist 2; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17

COMMITTEE:        Science, Technology and Energy

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ANALYSIS

This bill allows for an incumbent telephone utility to be relieved of its carrier of last resort obligations.

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Explanation:        Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three*

AN ACT                    relative to telephone carrier of last resort obligations.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1            1 New Paragraph; Telephone Utilities; Carrier of Last Resort Service Obligations. Amend RSA  
2 374:22-g by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

3            II-a. An incumbent telephone utility may petition the department of energy to be relieved of  
4 its carrier of last resort obligation in one or more municipalities. The commissioner of the  
5 department of energy shall approve the petition if the department of energy finds that:

6            (a) There is at least one wireline-facilities-based voice network service provider other  
7 than the incumbent that offers service to at least 95 percent of the households in the municipality,  
8 and one or more mobile telecommunications service providers that offers, in the aggregate, mobile  
9 telecommunications services to at least 97 percent of the households in the municipality; or

10            (b) A provider or multiple providers, other than the incumbent utility, have received  
11 state, federal, or municipal funding to serve the entire municipality.

12            2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.