

**Sixty-third Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 8, 2013**

SENATE BILL NO. 2055
(Natural Resources Committee)
(At the request of Public Service Commission)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 6 of section 49-21-01.7 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to delivery of bills for public service commission expenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 6 of section 49-21-01.7 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6. Employ and fix the compensation of experts, engineers, auditors, attorneys, and other such assistance for complaints, investigations, and other proceedings relating to telecommunications companies. The expense of any hearings, and the compensation and actual expenses of any employees of the commission while engaged upon any such hearings must, ~~upon the order of the commission,~~ be paid by the telecommunications company involved in such hearings. The commission shall ascertain the exact cost and expenditure. ~~After giving the telecommunications company notice and opportunity to demand a hearing, and after a hearing, if any, is held, the commission may and~~ render a bill and ~~make an order~~ for payment. The bill and ~~order~~ must be delivered by certified electronic or paper mail or personal delivery to the managing officer of the telecommunications company. Upon receipt of the bill and ~~order~~ for payment, the telecommunications company has thirty days within which to pay the amount billed. All amounts not paid within thirty days after receipt of the bill and ~~order~~ for payment thereafter draw interest at the rate of six percent per annum. If the telecommunications company disputes the amount of the bill, the company shall request a hearing. Amounts collected by the commission under this subsection must be deposited in a special account within the public service commission.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-third Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2055.

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 90 Nays 1 Absent 3

Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2013.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2013.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2013,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State