DRAFTER'S NOTE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

December 22, 1999

Senator Chvala:

Please review this draft carefully to ensure that it complies with your intent. In particular, please note the following:

1. Because this substitute amendment creates an assistance fund for "911" funded with assessments against large telecommunications utilities and because it deletes SECTION 7 of 1999 SB–91, which concerns the regulation of access rates paid for pay telephone service providers, the amendment may be considered nongermane.

2. We did not enumerate the costs directly related to purchasing equipment to establish or upgrade a basic or sophisticated system because we assumed that those costs enumerated in the draft prepared by Curt Pawlisch are meant to be illustrative, not comprehensive. If we are mistaken, please let us know and we will redraft accordingly.

3. The amendment requires "interexchange telecommunications carriers" to reduce rates to reflect the reduction in access rates charged by large telecommunications carriers, but these carriers are not defined in statute or rule. The statutes make reference to "interexchange telecommunications utilities", without defining them. Do you want to provide a statutory definition or require the PSC to define interexchange telecommunications carriers by rule?

4. Please note that the denominator under proposed s. 76.55 (2) (b) 2. is different from what is specified in the instructions, but we think that it assures that all of the money for a particular county will be distributed in grants.

5. This draft retains the delayed effective date of SB–91 to give large telecommunications utilities time to change their access rates.

6. Is it necessary to require large telecommunications utilities to report the number of their access lines to the PSC? If the PSC already has this information, then the nonstatutory provisions of this draft should be revised.

Madelon J. Lief Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 267–7380

Mark D. Kunkel Legislative Attorney Phone: (608) 266–0131 E-mail: Mark.Kunkel@legis.state.wi.us