

STATE DOCUMENT



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #131

Relating to the creation of the Telecommunications
Relay Service Council

WHEREAS, the State of Wisconsin has a sizable speech and hearing impaired population; and

WHEREAS, the State recognizes the need to improve communication opportunities for speech and hearing impaired persons; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a telecommunications relay service will help integrate speech and hearing impaired persons into the community and allow them equal access to communicate with others;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TOMMY G. THOMPSON, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of this State, and specifically by Wisconsin Statute section 14.019, do hereby repeal Executive Order #95 (dated June 19, 1990) and:

1. Recreate the Telecommunications Relay Service Council ("the Council").
2. Provide the Council shall consist of not more than 11 members, appointed by the Governor, to serve at his pleasure, including the following members:
 - a. Four members who use telecommunications relay service, consisting of one member who is speech impaired, one member who is hearing impaired, one member who is speech and hearing impaired, and one member who does not have a speech or hearing impairment.
 - b. Five members consisting of one representative of the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf, one representative of Wisconsin Telecommunications, Inc., one representative of the Wisconsin State Telephone Association, one representative of a local exchange telecommunications utility, and one public member.
 - c. A chairperson, selected by the Governor from among the membership of the council.
3. Direct the Council to advise the Bureau of Information and Telecommunications Management (BITM) in the Department of Administration on the feasibility and/or desirability of:
 - a. Establishing functional requirements and operational procedures for telecommunications relay service.
 - b. Requiring telecommunications relay service be available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
 - c. Requiring that users of telecommunications relay service pay rates that are not greater than the rates for functionally equivalent voice telecommunications service.

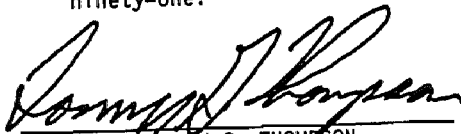
Legislative Reference

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- d. Prohibiting telecommunications relay service operators from refusing calls or limiting the length of calls.
 - e. Prohibiting telecommunications relay service operators from disclosing the content of calls or from keeping records of the content of a call beyond the duration of the call.
 - f. Prohibiting telecommunications relay service operators from intentionally altering the content of a call.
 - g. Requiring telecommunications relay service operators receive training related to problems faced by speech-impaired or hearing-impaired persons using telecommunications relay service.
 - h. Establishing, or authorizing by contract the establishment of a statewide telecommunications relay service.
 - i. Establishing a statewide telecommunications relay service to be available within 1 year of the date of this order.
4. Direct the Department of Administration provide necessary staff support for the Council, and provide funds necessary to pay the expenses of the Council.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this second day of October in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-one.



TOMMY G. THOMPSON
Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State

