

Senator Beverly Ann Evans proposes the following substitute bill:

1                                   **COMPETITION IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY**

2   **LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE**

3   2003 GENERAL SESSION

4   STATE OF UTAH

5   **Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble**

6   **This act establishes a legislative task force to study whether competition in the**  
7   **telecommunications industry has met the purposes of Utah's Telecommunications Act of**  
8   **1995 and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. The act establishes task force**  
9   **membership, duties, and salaries and designates staff for the task force. The act requires**  
10 **the task force to prepare a report. The act makes a one-time appropriation of \$43,500**  
11 **from the General Fund for fiscal year 2002-2003 to pay for task force expenses. The act**  
12 **provides a repeal date.**

13 This act enacts uncodified material.

14 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

15                   Section 1. **Competition in Telecommunications Industry Task Force -- Creation --**  
16 **Membership -- Interim rules followed -- Compensation -- Staff.**

17                   (1) There is created the Competition In Telecommunications Industry Task Force  
18 consisting of the following 12 members:

19                   (a) five members of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate, no more than  
20 three of whom may be from the same political party; and

21                   (b) seven members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the  
22 House of Representatives, no more than four of whom may be from the same political party.

23                   (2) (a) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed  
24 under Subsection (1)(a) as a cochair of the task force.

25                   (b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House



26 of Representatives appointed under Subsection (1)(b) as a cochair of the task force.

27 (3) In conducting its business, the task force shall comply with the rules of legislative  
28 interim committees.

29 (4) Salaries and expenses of the members of the task force shall be paid in accordance  
30 with Section 36-2-2 and Legislative Joint Rule 15.03.

31 (5) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide staff support  
32 to the committee.

33 **Section 2. Duties -- Report to Public Utilities and Technology Interim Committee.**

34 (1) The task force shall review and make recommendations on whether the stated  
35 incentives of Utah's Telecommunications Act of 1995 and the Federal Telecommunications  
36 Act of 1996 have produced measurable and qualitative results in terms of:

- 37 (a) attracting capital to telecommunications providers;
- 38 (b) increasing consumer choices for services and service providers;
- 39 (c) updating and installing an advanced telecommunication infrastructure in the state;
- 40 (d) setting wholesale prices that support the development of competition consistent  
41 with the 1995 Act and the Federal Act; and

42 (e) eliminating barriers to competition.

43 (2) In conducting its review and making its recommendations under Subsection (1), the  
44 task force shall obtain input from at least the following:

- 45 (a) the regional Bell operating company;
- 46 (b) competitive local exchange carriers;
- 47 (c) rural incumbent local exchange carriers;
- 48 (d) wireless service providers;
- 49 (e) the Public Service Commission;
- 50 (f) the Division of Public Utilities;
- 51 (g) the Committee of Consumer Services;
- 52 (h) commercial users of telecommunication services;
- 53 (i) residential users of telecommunication services; and
- 54 (j) cable and fiberoptic carriers.

55 (3) A final report, including any proposed legislation shall be presented to the Public  
56 Utilities and Technology Interim Committee before November 30, 2003.

57 Section 3. **Appropriation.**

58 There is appropriated from the General Fund for fiscal year 2002-2003, a one-time  
59 appropriation of:

60 (1) \$6,000 to the Senate to pay for the compensation and expenses of senators on the  
61 committee;

62 (2) \$7,500 to the House of Representatives to pay for the compensation and expenses  
63 of representatives on the committee; and

64 (3) \$30,000 to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to pay for  
65 staffing the committee.

66 Section 4. **Repeal date.**

67 This act is repealed November 30, 2003.