

A bill for an act
relating to telecommunications; requiring a study of the impact of state video
franchising in states that have enacted such legislation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **STATE VIDEO FRANCHISING STUDY.**

Subdivision 1. Study contents. The Department of Commerce shall contract for a
study of the impact of legislation enacted in at least three states that requires franchises
for video service to be issued by a state agency. The contractor conducting the study
shall, prior to its initiation, consult with associations representing municipalities and
communities of color. The study shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:

(1) the number of new video service providers that have applied for a state video
franchise;

(2) the number of incumbent video service providers that have elected to terminate
an existing franchise agreement and apply for a state video franchise;

(3) the amount of capital invested by new video service providers to furnish video
service;

(4) the number of communities in which new video service providers intend to offer
video services, as reflected in their application;

(5) the number of communities with an incumbent video provider in which new
providers intend to offer video services;

(6) the number of communities with no incumbent video service provider in which
new video service providers intend to offer video services;

(7) the effect on video service prices in communities with an incumbent video
provider in which new video service providers offer video services;

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- 2.1 (8) the effect on franchise fee revenues received by municipalities from video
2.2 service providers;
- 2.3 (9) the effect on the number of PEG channels available to communities;
- 2.4 (10) the effect on the amount of revenues received by municipalities to support the
2.5 provision of PEG programming in communities;
- 2.6 (11) the effect on the amount of PEG programming available in communities;
- 2.7 (12) the progress of new video providers in meeting any build-out requirements
2.8 in the law; and
- 2.9 (13) the effect on municipal services provided to communities by video service
2.10 providers.
- 2.11 Subd. 2. **Report.** The department shall submit the report described in subdivision
2.12 1 to the chairs and ranking minority members of the senate and house committees with
2.13 primary jurisdiction over telecommunications policy by February 1, 2009.
- 2.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.