

A bill for an act
relating to telecommunications; regulating private shared services; proposing
coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 237.
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[237.681] PRIVATE SHARED SERVICES.**

Subdivision 1. **Definition.** For the purposes of this section, "private shared services" means the provision of telephone services and equipment, the provision of video programming services, or the provision of broadband services within a user group located in discrete private premises, in building complexes, campuses, or high-rise buildings, by a commercial shared services provider or by a user association, through privately owned customer premises equipment and associated data processing and information management services and includes the provision of connections to the facilities of a local exchange and to long-distance telephone companies.

Subd. 2. **Requirements.** A person who owns or operates a building, property, complex, or other facility where a private shared system is operated shall establish a single demarcation point for services and facilities provided by a telephone company providing local exchange service in the area that is mutually agreeable to the property owner or operator and the telephone company. The obligation of a telephone company to provide service to a customer at a location where a private shared system is operated is limited to providing telephone company service and facilities up to the demarcation point established for the property where the private shared telecommunications system is located. The owner or operator of a private shared system may not (1) impose unreasonable restrictions on access to the demarcation point on the premises by a telephone company or (2) discriminate against or in favor of an occupant in any manner, including charging the

occupant higher or lower rental charges, because of the occupant's choice of telephone company.

Subd. 3. Access to alternative provider. A tenant of a building, property, complex, or other facility where a private shared system is operated may establish a direct connection to and receive telephone service from a telephone company providing local exchange service in the area where the private shared system is located. At the request of a tenant where a private shared system is operated, the owner or manager of the property shall make facilities or conduit space available to the tenant to allow the tenant to make separate connection to and to receive telephone service directly from the telephone company operating local exchange service in the area. The tenant has the choice of installing the tenant's own facilities or using the existing facilities. The facilities or conduit space must be provided by the owner or operator to the tenant at a reasonable rate and on reasonable terms and conditions. It is the obligation of the tenant to arrange for premises wire, cable, or other equipment necessary to connect the tenant's telephone equipment with the facilities of the telephone company operating local exchange service at the location of the demarcation point.

Subd. 4. Enforcement. If the commission finds that the owner or operator of a private shared system has failed to comply with a request under this section, the commission may order the owner or operator to make facilities or conduit space available sufficient to allow the tenant to make separate connection with the telephone company, and provide the services at reasonable prices and on reasonable terms and conditions.

Subd. 5. Exemption. A provider of private shared services is exempt from section 237.16 if the telecommunications services are only provided to tenants or for the provider's own use.

Subd. 6. Service by local telephone company. A telephone company providing local exchange service shall provide service to anyone located within a shared services building at the demarcation point within a reasonable time upon request.