



# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

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## Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments\*

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### **Sub. H.B. 402**

132nd General Assembly  
(S. Public Utilities)

Modifies the definition of "line loss" to be the number of *access lines* for which a customer has terminated *local exchange service*, rather than the number of *accounts* for which a customer has terminated *basic* local exchange service (BLES), which was in the House-passed version. Under the bill, an investor-owned incumbent local exchange carrier must demonstrate 50% line loss to qualify for an exemption from BLES rate regulation.

States that the bill must not be construed to impair the rights of any person to file a complaint with the Public Utilities Commission (PUCO) under continuing law for unjust or unlawful rates, or the rights of the PUCO to initiate such a complaint, against a carrier that is exempt from BLES rate regulation.

Revises the law to say that it is state policy to ensure the adequacy and reliability of BLES consistent with continuing law, rather than to ensure the adequacy and reliability of BLES *where available*, which was the amendment in the House-passed version.

Modifies data required to be in a PUCO report by requiring inclusion of the number of basic local exchange lines in service in Ohio at the time of the report rather than the number of customers using BLES in Ohio at that time.

Removes a phrase that specified that a carrier's ability to apply for an exemption from BLES rate regulation was conditional on the General Assembly's failing to change the law in response to the PUCO's report.

Restores current law regarding the definition of "control" as it relates to telephone company acquisitions, mergers, and transfers of control.