

2013 -- H 5298

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LC00918
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS -- DUTIES OF UTILITIES AND
CARRIERS

Introduced By: Representatives DeSimone, Slater, and Carnevale

Date Introduced: February 07, 2013

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 39-2-1.3 of the General Laws in Chapter 39-2 entitled "Duties of
2 Utilities and Carriers" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 ~~39-2-1.3. Payment for cellular telephone services -- Late charges.~~ Regulation of
4 wireless telephone services. -- (a) No subscriber to a ~~cellular~~ wireless telephone service shall be
5 subject to an assessment of a late fee on a monthly billing unless the payment is at least thirty
6 (30) days past the close of the billing period which is the subject of the statement. A ~~cellular~~
7 wireless telephone operator shall not impose a late fee unless the bill contains a clear and
8 conspicuous notice of when the late fee is to be imposed consistent with this section.

9 (b) The division shall prescribe such reasonable rules and regulations as it shall deem
10 proper to assure that the customers of wireless telecommunications carriers have a regulatory
11 forum for pursuing complaints and redress related to billing and sales practices and quality of
12 service.

13 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would permit the division to promulgate rules and regulations designed to
2 provide consumers with a regulatory forum for pursuing complaints and redress against wireless
3 telecommunications carriers related to billing and sales practices and quality of service.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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