



State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

GREG BELL
Lieutenant Governor

Public Service Commission

TED BOYER
Chairman

RIC CAMPBELL
Commissioner

RON ALLEN
Commissioner

March 28, 2011

Mr. Bill Duncan
Division of Public Utilities
Heber M. Wells Bldg. 4th Floor
160 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Dear Bill:

Re: Speech and Hearing Impaired Fund Status

S.B. 209, "Telecommunications Amendments" sponsored by Senator Curtis Bramble passed the 2011 Legislature and was signed by Governor Gary Herbert on March 25, 2011. The legislation becomes effective on May 10, 2011. This bill provides a surcharge on residential and business lines for provision of telecommunications devices to hearing and speech impaired persons, and shall apply to each access line for residential and business telephone service and each telephone number for mobile telephone service. The bill also reduces the cap on the surcharge rate from \$.25 to \$.20. The previous surcharge rate has been set by the Public Service Commission (PSC) at \$.10 however; the balance in the account has been steadily declining. The February 28, 2011 balance reported by the Division of Public Utilities was \$1,405,770 and has declined each month since September 2006.

The Public Service Commission, therefore, requests the Division of Public Utilities perform an analysis to implement S.B. 209 to determine a recommended surcharge rate since the rate will now be charged to residential and business land lines as well as to cell phones. The Commission desires to set a rate that will enable a one-year surplus balance in excess of revenue and expenditure yearly balances.

Thank you for your willingness to assist with this analysis. A copy of the legislation is attached. The Commission requests the analysis and recommendation be completed and submitted to the PSC by April 20, 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Orchard".

Julie Orchard
Commission Secretary