

temporary or permanent staff, or may contract with persons who are not state employees for engineering, accounting, or other professional services, or both. The costs of these additional employees and contract services shall be paid by the public utility whose rates are being reviewed in the same manner as other expenses are paid under this section. There is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to enable the commission to hire additional staff and contract for services under this section. The authority to hire additional temporary or permanent staff that is granted to the commission by this section shall not be subject to limitation by any administrative or executive order or decision that restricts the number of state employees or the filling of employee vacancies, and shall not be subject to limitation by any law of this state that restricts the number of state employees or the filling of employee vacancies unless that law is made applicable to this section by express reference to this section.

Sec. 8. The Iowa state commerce commission shall investigate the practice of allowing a public utility to recover advertising costs from its customers. The commission shall recommend to the general assembly not later than January 15, 1982, whether or not it is appropriate to adopt legislation to disallow a portion of advertising costs when determining costs of operations for rate-making purposes. The Code editor shall not codify this section.

Sec. 9. Sections 5 and 6 of this Act apply to proceedings commenced under sections 476.3 or 476.6, respectively, on or after the effective date of this Act.

Approved June 13, 1981

CHAPTER 157

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE

S. F. 284

AN ACT striking the provision which prohibits a telephone company from imposing a charge for directory assistance.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Chapter 476, Code 1981, is amended by adding the following new section:

NEW SECTION. TELEPHONE DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE CHARGES. Notwithstanding contrary provisions of section 476.6, a public utility shall not implement a charge for telephone directory assistance or implement a new or changed rate for telephone directory assistance except pursuant to a tariff that has been filed with the commission and finally approved by the commission.

Sec. 2. Section 476.6, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 1981, is amended to read as follows:

~~No~~ A public utility subject to rate regulation shall not make effective any new or changed rate, charge, schedule or regulation except by filing the same it with the commission at least thirty days prior to the its effective date thereof. The commission, for good cause shown, may allow changes in rates, charges, schedules or regulations to become effective on less than thirty days' notice. ~~The commission shall not approve a charge nor shall a public utility make a charge for telephone directory assistance~~ Any subscriber of a telephone exchange or service, who is declared to be legally blind under section 422.12(e),* shall be exempt from any charges for telephone directory assistance that may be approved by the commerce commission.

Notwithstanding unnumbered paragraph 1 of this section, as of July 1, 1984, the Iowa state commerce commission shall not approve a schedule of telephone directory assistance charges unless the schedule provides that there shall not be a charge for directory assistance unless the telephone number requested is listed in the telephone directory most recently published and distributed by the utility.

Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. A telephone directory assistance tariff that is approved by the commission on or after the effective date of this Act shall be subject to the limitation that a subscriber shall not be charged for the first seven directory assistance calls made from the subscriber's station during each of the first twelve months in which the tariff is in effect, and a charge made in violation of this limitation is an unlawful charge within the meaning of chapter 476.

Approved April 27, 1981

CHAPTER 158

UTILITIES DIVISION FUNDING OF COMMERCE COMMISSION

H. F. 398

AN ACT relating to the funding of the operations of the utilities division of the Iowa state commerce commission, and providing for semiannual remainder assessments against public utilities, and for a supplemental appropriation of two hundred thousand dollars to the commerce commission for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1980, and ending June 30, 1981, for operational purposes, to be effective upon publication.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 476.10, unnumbered paragraph 2, Code 1981, is amended to read as follows:

The commission shall ~~annually, within ninety days after the close of each fiscal year,~~ ascertain the total of its expenditures during each year which are reasonably attributable to the performance of its duties under this

*422.12(1)"e" probably intended