

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application) Application No. C-2417
of the Commission, on its own)
motion, to seek comment on the) ORDER OPENING DOCKET
establishment and implementation) AND SEEKING COMMENT
of "711" as a statewide three-digit)
calling number reserved for access)
to telecommunication relay services)
(TRS).) Entered: November 8, 2000

BY THE COMMISSION:

On August 9, 2000, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released its *Second Report and Order* in CC Docket No. 92-105, *In the Matter of the Use of N11 Codes and Other Abbreviated Dialing Arrangements* (hereinafter, the FCC order). The FCC order required all telecommunications carriers to implement three-digit, 711, dialing for access to all telecommunication relay services (TRS). These services provide telecommunication services for the deaf, hard-of-hearing and the speech-impaired. The order further established a October 1, 2001, deadline for all telecommunications carriers, including wireline, wireless, PBX and payphone providers.

On November 1, 2000, the Commission held a workshop on 711 implementation to discuss any issues related to the implementation of 711 as a statewide three-digit number reserved for access to telecommunications relay systems. At that workshop, Dixie Ziegler, Director of Relay for Hamilton Telecommunications, the relay service provider for the state of Nebraska, presented to the Commission and to industry representatives a 711 implementation plan. In the plan presented, Hamilton indicated that they have added an 888 toll-free number for local telephone companies, wireless companies, PBX providers and payphone providers to route 711 to calls to the relay center.

Based on the FCC order and the information received at the 711 Implementation Workshop, the Commission finds that it should enter preliminary conclusions and allow industry representatives and the public a period of public comment on those conclusions prior to formal implementation.

Accordingly, the Commission finds that the following preliminary conclusions should be presented for public comment:

- Telecommunications providers must continue to send the
- same call information as already provided including: the
- calling party's automatic number identification (ANI);

- the correct information digits for originating number
- restrictions; and the DNIS (the established 888 toll-free
- number assigned for 711 calls as established by Hamilton
- Telecommunications).

- The Commission tentatively sets June 1, 2001, as the
- deadline for compliance with 711 routing for all non-wireless carriers, including PBX and
- payphone providers
- in Nebraska.

- The Commission recognizes October 1, 2001, is the
- mandatory deadline set by the FCC for all carriers to
- comply with 711 routing nationally.

- The Commission encourages wireless carriers to implement
- 711 routing by the June 1, 2001, deadline but recognizes
- that the mandatory date of October 1, 2001, may be the
- more practicable deadline should the wireless providers
- use a national implementation plan.

- The Commission finds that there may be payphones currently providing service in the
- state that are unable to
- meet the technical requirements for 711 access to TRS.
- The Commission encourages those carriers utilizing such
- payphones to petition the FCC for a waiver or modification of the order's requirements relative to
- certain
- payphone technology.

The Commission finds that a comment period should be opened to allow industry representatives and the public to comment on the conclusions issued by the Commission as a result of the FCC order and the 711 Implementation Workshop. Interested parties may file their comments on or before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 1, 2000. Parties filing comments shall do so by filing five hard copies and one electronic copy on diskette in WordPerfect 5.0 or later format. Filings via facsimile will not be accepted.

O R D E R

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all interested parties are invited to comment on the conclusions on the implementation of 711 access to TRS. Initial comments are due no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, December 1, 2000. Parties filing comments shall do so by filing five hard copies and one electronic copy on diskette in WordPerfect 5.0 or later version. Filings will not be accepted via facsimile.

MADE AND ENTERED in Lincoln, Nebraska on this 8th day of November, 2000.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

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