

House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development
H.297 as Passed Senate
Issues for Further Discussion
Legislative Council – May 2, 2014

1. Purpose – What is the objective of the H.297 and is it consistent with the State’s telecommunications policy.

- 100 Mbps (symmetrical) by 2024 – Doable? Cost? Current status?
- Synchronize with 3 year revisions to Telecom Plan

2. Vermont USF

- Connectivity Fund
 - Include definition of underserved
 - Proposals include en route to Mrs. O’Malley
 - Fund a high cost program (for ILECs), also or instead of
 - Sufficient checks and balances
- Prepaid Wireless
 - Provider Assessment – unconstitutional delegation of State’s taxing authority?
 - P.O.S. at flat 2 percent, small retailer exemption
- Claw back provision for uncollected surcharges

3. Division for Connectivity

- Exempt of classified positions
- Increase State positions of fill vacancies
- Advisory Board (continuity; checks and balances; like CEDF; recommendations not accepted, detailed explanation)

4. Public highway conduit (rules or study)

- Input from VLCT
- Takings issue?

5. 248a (S.220 or As passed Senate)

6. Disclosure of retransmission consent agreement fees – preempted?

7. E-911 – Transfer definite

8. CPG for Cable Television Systems – conform with State Telecom Plan

- Preemption issue?

9. VTA – dormancy; bonding; functions; capabilities