
DIGEST

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HB 276 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Bishop

Abstract: Exempts certain video programming, including streaming services, from the definition of "video service" and "cable service" for purposes of franchise fees.

Present law defines "cable service" as the one-way transmission to subscribers of video programming or other programming service and any subscriber interaction required for the selection or use of video programming or other programming service. Present law exempts video programming provided by a commercial mobile service provider from the definition of "cable service".

Proposed law retains the exemption for video programming provided by a commercial service provider from the definition of "cable service" but expands the exemption to include video programming accessed via a service that enables users to access content, information, e-mail, or other services offered over the internet, including streaming content.

Present law defines "video service" as video programming services provided through wireline facilities located at least in part in the public rights of way without regard to delivery technology, including internet protocol technology. Present law exempts video programming by a commercial mobile service provider or video programming provided as part of a service enabling users to access information over the internet from the definition of "video service".

Proposed law retains present law but expands the exemption from the definition of "video service" to include streaming content.

(Amends R.S. 45:1363(intro. para.), (1), and (14))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Ways and Means to the original bill:

1. Delete provisions in proposed law authorizing the secretary of state to audit, file suit, and resolve disputes relating to franchise fee payments.
2. Exclude video programming accessed via a service that enables users to access content, information, e-mail, or other services offered over the internet, including streaming content from the definition of "cable service".

3. Exclude streaming content from the definition of "video service".