

Title: Local Competition in the Local Exchange Telecommunications Services Report.

Form No.: N/A.

Respondents: Business or other for profit.

Estimated Annual Burden: 20 respondents; 26 hours per response (avg.); 5520 total annual burden hours.

Estimated Annual Reporting and Recordkeeping Cost Burden: \$0.

Frequency of Response: On occasion; quarterly.

Description: The Telecommunications Act of 1996 (1996 Act) imposes obligations and responsibilities on telecommunications carriers, particularly incumbent local exchange carriers (LECs), that are primarily designed to open telecommunications markets to competitive entry, to promote universal service, and to lessen the need for government regulation of telecommunications. Pursuant to these overall goals, the statute directed the Commission to adopt regulations to implement specific statutory requirements, including regulations governing the provisions of interconnection of incumbent LEC facilities with new local exchange service competitors, and the competitive entry of Bell Operating Companies (BOCs) into previously prohibited interexchange and other services markets. As part of its responsibilities toward achieving the intent of the statute, the Commission must have adequate data at hand to evaluate the success of these efforts. Moreover, in section 706(b) of the 1996 Act, Congress directed the Commission to report to it on the pace of deployment of "advanced telecommunications capability"—broadband telecommunications services such as high-speed Internet access. The Commission adopted a Report (in CC Docket 98-146) on January 28, 1999, in which it formally undertook to issue annual reports detailing the status of broadband deployment. Gathering relevant data about broadband deployment is, therefore, essential if the Commission is to successfully accomplish this statutory requirement. Gathering information also is critical to the Commission's deregulatory agenda. Gathering data about the development of local competition and broadband deployment will help ensure that the Commission can properly evaluate the nature and impact of its existing regulation and, where appropriate, reduce or eliminate regulation. New sections 10 and 11 of the 1996 Act both require the Commission to undertake reviews of existing Commission regulations with a view towards their elimination, but both require that the

Commission's analysis include an economic analysis of the state of competition among service providers. The Commission has designed a survey form to capture this information and is asking certain carriers to complete the survey form. Obligation to response: Voluntary.

Public reporting burden for the collections of information is as noted above. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of the collections of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden to Performance Evaluation and Records Management, Washington, DC 20554.

Federal Communications Commission.

Shirley S. Suggs,

Chief, Publications Branch.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Information Collection(s) Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval

March 15, 1999.

SUMMARY: The Federal Communications Commission, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork burden invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following information collection, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number. No person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) that does not display a valid control number. Comments are requested concerning (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's burden estimate; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted on or before April 19, 1999. If you anticipate that you will be submitting comments, but find it difficult to do so within the period of

time allowed by this notice, you should advise the contact listed below as soon as possible.

ADDRESSES: Direct all comments to Les Smith, Federal Communications Commissions, Room 1-804, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554 or via the Internet to lesmith@fcc.gov.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For additional information or copies of the information collections contact Les Smith at (202) 418-0217 or via the Internet at lesmith@fcc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB Control Number: 3060-0804.

Title: Universal Service—Health Care Providers Universal Service Program.

Form Number(s): FCC 465, FCC 466, FCC 467, and FCC 468.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; and Businesses or other for-profit entities.

Number of Respondents: 18,400.

Estimated Time per Response: 1.5 to 2.5 hours.

Frequency of Response:

Recordkeeping: On occasion reporting requirements.

Total Annual Burden: 121,500 hours.

Total Annual Costs: \$270,000.

Needs and Uses: The Commission adopted rules providing support for all telecommunications services, limited distance charges, and Internet access for all health care providers. Health care providers who want to participate in the universal service program must file the following forms. FCC Form 465 to request eligible services; FCC Form 466 to certify that the most cost effective method of providing the services has been requested; FCC Form 467 to confirm the receipt of the requested services; and FCC Form 468 to ensure that the proper amount of universal service support has been calculated. All the information is used to administer the universal service health care program.

Federal Communications Commission.

Shirley S. Suggs,

Chief, Publications Branch.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 99-385]

Unified Policy For Dismissing Applications and Pleadings

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.