

Accompanying the fifth recommendation of the Executive Office of Consumer Affairs (House, No. 35). Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Four.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO FUNDING FOR THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 19 of chapter 297 of the acts of 1983 is hereby amended
2 by striking out said section in its entirety, and inserting in place
3 thereof the following section: —

4 *Section 19.* Notwithstanding the provisions of any special or
5 general law to the contrary, in addition to the assessments
6 authorized in sections seventeen and eighteen of General Laws
7 chapter 25, the Department of Public Utilities is hereby authorized
8 to make an assessment against each telephone and telegraph
9 company under the jurisdictional control of the department, based
10 upon the intrastate operating revenues of each of said companies
11 derived from sales within the commonwealth of telephone and
12 telegraph service as shown in the most recent annual report of each
13 of said companies to the department. Said assessment shall be
14 determined and certified by the department as sufficient to
15 produce two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in revenue to be
16 allocated among such companies in the proportion that each
17 company's share of such operating revenues bears to the total
18 operating revenues of all such companies in the commonwealth
19 during the previous calendar year. The assessment under this
20 section may be credited to the normal operating cost of each
21 company. The funds produced by such assessment shall be used by

22 the department, in addition to other funds appropriated, to assist
23 in defraying the general operating expenses of the telecommu-
24 nications, division and other expenses of the department relating
25 to telecommunications, including but not limited to the provision
26 of informational and educational services to telecommunications
27 consumers in the commonwealth and costs involved in telecom-
28 munications rate setting proceedings.

29 The department shall certify to the commissioner of revenue the
30 amount of assessment to be made and the name and address of
31 each company against whom such assessment is made. Such
32 assessment shall be collected by the commissioner of revenue in
33 accordance with applicable provisions of chapter sixty-three of the
34 General Laws provided, however, that each company shall pay the
35 amount assessed against it within thirty days from the receipt of
36 notice of assessment from the commissioner of revenue.