

# THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMMISSION'S  
IMPLEMENTATION OF SUBSTITUTE  
HOUSE BILL 402 OF THE 132ND OHIO  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

CASE NO. 19-173-TP-ORD

## ENTRY

Entered in the Journal on August 25, 2021

### I. SUMMARY

{¶ 1} The Commission directs all incumbent local exchange companies to submit the requisite information pertaining to its offering of local exchange service.

### II. DISCUSSION

{¶ 2} The 132nd Ohio General Assembly adopted Substitute House Bill 402 (Sub. H.B. 402). The bill was effective March 20, 2019. Among other things, the bill directed the Commission Staff (Staff) to produce and docket a report that includes: (a) the number of basic local exchange lines in service in the state at the time of the report; (b) the aggregate amount of line loss, as defined in R.C. 4927.123, since the effective date of Sub. H.B. 402; and (c) the change in the price of basic local exchange service (BLES) in each exchange area in this state over the three years since the effective date of Sub. H.B. 402.

{¶ 3} Pursuant to Sub. H.B. 402, the Commission shall allow three months for public comment on the report. No later than a date that is exactly three months after the report is docketed, the Commission must submit a report to the standing committees in the House of Representatives and the Senate dealing with telecommunications issues, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Additionally, Sub. H. B. 402 permits an incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) to apply for an exemption from the price cap requirements for BLES four years from the effective date of the legislation, exempts telephone companies from treble damages, and limits the Commission's ability to consider domestic telephone company change of control applications.

{¶ 4} In order for the Commission and Staff to comply with the obligations set forth in Sub. H.B. 402, each ILEC must electronically provide the Staff with the requisite information. Specifically, responding entities should download from the Commission website the applicable Excel Spreadsheet, which can be found at the following address: <https://puco.ohio.gov/static/puco-forms/PUCO+HB+402+Survey.xlsx>. The completed spreadsheet should be sent to Staff at the following secure email address: [HB402PUCOREPORT@puco.ohio.gov](mailto:HB402PUCOREPORT@puco.ohio.gov). All submissions must be completed by November 10, 2021.

{¶ 5} An entry establishing the report comment period will be issued upon the filing of the report.

### III. ORDER

{¶ 6} It is, therefore,

{¶ 7} ORDERED, That all ILECs submit the requisite information consistent with Paragraph 4. It is, further,

{¶ 8} ORDERED, That a notice of this Entry be sent to the telephone industry list-serve. It is, further,

{¶ 9} ORDERED, That a copy of this Entry be served upon all regulated telephone companies and all radio common carriers, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, the Ohio Telecom Association, the Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association, and all other interested persons of record.

**COMMISSIONERS:**

*Approving:*

Jenifer French, Chair  
M. Beth Trombold  
Lawrence K. Friedeman  
Daniel R. Conway  
Dennis P. Deters

JSA/kck

**This foregoing document was electronically filed with the Public Utilities**

**Commission of Ohio Docketing Information System on**

**8/25/2021 2:31:25 PM**

**in**

**Case No(s). 19-0173-TP-ORD**

Summary: Entry directing all incumbent local exchange companies to submit the requisite information pertaining to its offering of local exchange service. electronically filed by Ms. Mary E. Fischer on behalf of Public Utilities Commission of Ohio