

48:5A-11.1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 48:5A-11.1

(Cable TV--allow
discount rate for
senior citizens)

LAWS OF: 1988

CHAPTER: 81

Bill No: S1483

Sponsor(s): McNamera

Date Introduced: Pre-filed

Committee: Assembly: Transportation & Communications

Senate: Transportation & Communications

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: June 13, 1988

Senate: May 2, 1988

Date of Approval: August 2, 1988

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: No

Committee Statement: Assembly: Yes

Senate: Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

P.L. 1988, CHAPTER 81, approved August 2, 1988

1988 Senate No. 1483

1 AN ACT concerning cable television rates for disabled citizens
and amending P.L. 1985, c. 356.

3

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the
5 State of New Jersey:

1. Section 1 of P.L. 1985, c. 356 (C. 48:5A-11.1) is amended
7 to read as follows:

1. It is declared that many elderly and disabled persons reside
9 in the State whose annual net income from all sources is less
than the amount necessary to enable them to maintain decent
11 living conditions and whose income is fixed in whole or in part so
as to be not adjusted to increases in the cost of living; that the
13 provision of the service of public utilities, and cable television,
at rates reduced or discounted from inflationary levels is a
15 necessity of life for these persons because cable television is a
principal source of recreation and entertainment for the elderly
17 and infirm; that a public exigency exists which makes the
provision of reduced or discounted rate services to qualified
19 elderly and disabled persons by cable television companies a
public necessity; and that the provision of reduced rates will
21 promote their health and welfare, thereby prolonging their
productivity in the interest of the State and nation, and
23 therefore constitutes and is declared to be a public purpose
necessary for the preservation of the public convenience.

(cf: P.L. 1985, c. 356, s. 1)

2. Section 2 of P.L. 1985, c. 356 (C. 48:5A-11.2) is amended
27 to read as follows:

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of P.L. 1972, c. 186 (C.
29 48:5A-1 et seq.) or of any other State law to the contrary, any
CATV company providing service may establish rates or
31 schedules which provide for a reduction or discount in rates

EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the
above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 for cable television reception service for senior citizens and
3 disabled citizens who meet the [income and residency] eligibility
5 requirements of the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged
and Disabled" program pursuant to P.L. 1975, c. 194 (C.
30:4D-20 et seq.).

7 The Board of Public Utilities through the Office of Cable
Television shall adopt regulations for the prompt, fair and
9 efficient establishment and maintenance of these reduced or
discounted rates and schedules.

11 "Senior citizen" means any person 62 years of age or older
who subscribes for CATV service and who does not share the
13 subscription with more than one other person in the same
dwelling unit who is less than 62 years of age.
(cf: P.L. 1985, c. 356, s. 2.)

15 3. This act shall take effect on the 60th day following
enactment.

17

19

PUBLIC UTILITIES
Communications and Broadcasting

21

23

Permits CATV companies to offer discount rates to disabled
citizens.

SENATE, No. 1483

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1988 SESSION

By Senator McNAMARA

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ASSEMBLY TRANSPORTATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1483

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 1, 1988

The Assembly Transportation and Communications Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1483.

This bill amends P.L.1985, c.356 (C.48:5A-11.1 et seq.) to permit cable television companies to offer a discount rate for cable television reception to disabled citizens who meet the eligibility requirements of the "Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled" program, P.L.1975, c.194 (C.30:4D-20 et seq.). Under current law, certain senior citizens who are eligible under the program may be offered a discount for reception. This bill allows cable television companies to offer the discount to qualified disabled citizens as well.

SENATE TRANSPORTATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1483

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 28, 1988

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This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 1988 session pending technical review. As reported this bill includes changes required by technical review which has been performed.