**A** **BILL**

TO PROVIDE THAT THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION SHALL REQUIRE COUNTYWIDE TOLL‑FREE CALLING TO BE PROVIDED BY ALL TELEPHONE UTILITIES OPERATING WITHIN YORK COUNTY BY JULY 1, 2009, AND PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. (A) Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the Public Service Commission shall require countywide toll‑free calling to be provided by all telephone utilities operating within York County by July 1, 2009. Where two or more telephone utilities operate in York County, each telephone utility shall provide countywide toll‑free calling to and from telephones within the area served by the other telephone utility or telephone utilities in York County.

(B) The commission shall require telephone utilities to enter into negotiations to provide for countywide toll‑free calling throughout their service areas. If the telephone utilities are unable to reach an agreement within a time frame consistent with the requirements of this section, the commission shall impose its own countywide toll‑free calling plan.

SECTION 2. Except as otherwise provided in this act, this act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

‑‑‑‑XX‑‑‑‑