



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 297**

Hearing Date: January 30, 2007

Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications

Introducer(s): (Pedersen, 39)

Title: Eliminate a requirement relating to a telecommunications surcharge

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Hudkins, Schimek, Fischer, Mines, Stuthman, Aguilar and Pedersen
1	No	Senator Louden
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

Proponents:

Barb Brunkow, Introducer
Tanya Wendel
Jerry Vap
Joseph Posont

Representing:

Senator Dwite Pedersen, District #39
Deaf & Hard of Hearing
Nebraska Public Service Commission
Kincaid Coach Lines, Inc.

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 297 eliminates a cap on the amount appropriated for the specialized telecommunications equipment program under the Telecommunications System Relay Act.

The bill amends § 86-313 to strike language that states the amount appropriated for the specialized telecommunications equipment program from the fund shall not exceed the revenue generated by one cent of the surcharge per month.

The current surcharge for the Telecommunications Relay System Fund is five cents. Under the current statute, only one cent of that surcharge can be used to provide specialized equipment in the homes of the deaf and hard of hearing. The change in LB 297 allows the commission to use more than one cent of the surcharge to provide this equipment.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Deb Fischer, Chairperson