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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Sandra B. Mortham
 Secretary of State

May 16, 1997

Blanca S. Bayo, Director
 Florida Public Service Commission
 Division of Records and Reporting
 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

RE: Docket Number 970157-TP Establishment of Intrastate
 Discounts for Schools and Libraries Pursuant to Section
 254(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Dear Ms. Bayo:

Enclosed for filing in docket number 970157-TP are one
 original and 15 copies of the Department of State's Petition
 for Leave to Intervene. If you have any questions regarding
 this matter, please contact me at 414 5536. Thank you for
 your assistance.

Sincerely,

Andrea J. Moreland
 Assistant General Counsel

- ACK _____
- AFA _____
- APP _____
- CAF _____
- CM _____
- CTI _____
- ETI _____

Enclosures

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BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ORIGINAL
FILE COPY

In Re: Establishment of
Intrastate Discounts for Schools
and Libraries Pursuant to
Section 254(h) of The
Telecommunications Act of 1996.

DOCKET NO. 970157 TP
FILED: MAY 16, 1997

PETITION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE

Pursuant to Rule 25-22.039, Florida Administrative Code, the Florida Department of State, Division of Library and Information Services ("Department"), by and through undersigned counsel, respectfully requests that the Florida Public Service Commission ("Commission") grant it leave to intervene in the above captioned docket. In support thereof, the Department states as follows:

1. The complete name and address of the Petitioner is:

Florida Department of State
LL-10, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

2. All notices, pleadings, orders, and other documents should be directed to:

Donald L. Bell, General Counsel
Office of the General Counsel
Florida Department of State
LL-10, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

3. The Florida Department of State is a department of the executive branch of state government as provided by section 20.10, Florida Statutes (1995).

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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4. The Department is entitled to intervene in this docket because of its responsibilities and duties provided under chapter 257, Florida Statutes (1995 and Supp. 1996).

5. The Department is the agency of state government with responsibility for coordinating public library service in Florida. Id. The Department is authorized to engage in any activity which will promote the development of library service to state government, to the libraries and library profession of the state, or to the citizens of the state. Fla. Stat. s. 257.04 (1995).

6. The Department is also responsible for the administration of the State Library, which is a user of services provided by telecommunications carriers. Fla. Stat. s. 257.01 (1995).

7. Section 254(h) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 allows telecommunications carriers to provide designated services to eligible schools and libraries at a discounted rate. For intrastate services, this rate will be determined by the Commission in this proceeding. 47 U.S.C.A. s. 254(h)(1)-(B). The act states, in relevant part, as follows:

All telecommunications carriers serving a geographic area shall, upon a bona fide request for any of its services that are within the definition of universal service under subsection (c)(3) of this section, provide such services to elementary schools, secondary schools, and libraries for educational purposes at rates less than the amounts charged for similar services to other parties. The discount shall be an amount that the Commission [FCC], with respect to interstate services, and the States, with respect to intrastate services, determine is appropriate and necessary to ensure affordable access to and use of such services by such entities.

8. Any action taken by the Commission in this matter will directly and substantially affect Florida public libraries.

WHEREFORE, the Florida Department of State requests that it be permitted to intervene in this docket.

Respectfully submitted this 16th day of May, 1997.



DONALD L. BELL

General Counsel

ANDREA J. MORELAND

Assistant General Counsel

Counsel for the Department

Florida Department of State

LL-10, The Capitol

Tallahassee, Florida 32399 0250

(904) 414-5536 (Telephone)

(904) 922-5763 (Facsimile)

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Petition for Leave to Intervene has been furnished to the attached service list by U.S. Mail this 16th day of May 1997.



ANDREA J. MORELAND

Assistant General Counsel

Service List

William Cox, Esquire
Florida Public Service Commission
Division of Legal Services
2450 Shumard Oak Blvd.
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Department of Education
Turlington Building
325 Gaines Street
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