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FLORIDA PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION
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19 August 98

Study on Fair Rates (No. 980000A-SP)
Divisions of Records and Reporting
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850


Re: Sprint Rates and Tariffs billing

Sprint Co. is our service provider in this area, and upon moving to this area about two years ago, we ordered two (2) lines for us, even though we are retired. I had previously worked with an Internet provider in Huntsville, Alabama as their sales representative in Northwest Alabama, primarily Florence, Sheffield, Tuscumbia, Muscle Shoals and Russellville. I felt that as a 73 year old retiree, that the Internet would offer me a great amount of pleasure and contact through email, etc. At the time that we ordered these two lines, the basic charges were \$29.50 plus \$2.70 tax. Since that time, our rate for the same service has increased to \$35.68 for local service plus taxes of \$23.63. A portion of the tax may be associated with a long distance bill of \$31.80 which was higher than usual, due to death of two friends in the Alabama area last month, and calls related to that. The point that I wish to make is that our basic service has not changed since that time, and our rates have increased by \$5. + per month and taxes have increased by about \$20.00. A portion of this is the so called Gore Internet service associated with the FCC for schools and libraries.

To recall such a need, I refer back to my sales days with the Internet provider in Alabama. We offered no special rate for schools or libraries, but in my sales area, I had three county school systems, 5 city systems and a couple of private schools. During the first six months of 1996, all three of the county systems signed with me for service, one for ISDN for their principal office, which was approximately double the regular phone cost. In the 5 city systems, four of them had signed for all high schools, and middle schools, two with ISDN service, and one of the private schools went on the Internet with us. My point is that the schools CAN afford the Internet without being supported by the phone company users across the country, generating millions of dollars for this fund. I know of one school system in Florida that is gearing for receiving almost \$10 Million from this fund in the 1998-99 school year alone. I strongly oppose this form of taxation, and especially since it is not needed. In Seminole County alone, the budget for the schools involves some 55% of the total tax burden of its citizens. I, further believe that the telephone company could afford to provide the basic services at a fixed rate, without raises for the same service each year or so.

- ACK _____
- AFA 1
- APP _____
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- EAG _____
- LEG 1
- LIN _____
- OPC _____
- RCH 1
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- WAS _____
- OTH _____

Thank you for accepting my input,


Cleto H. and Netta K. Quick
1095 Lancelot Way
Casselberry, FL 32707

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

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