

Montana Public Service Commission  
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PSC HOSTS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OF NEW TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAW

The impact in Montana of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 just passed by Congress and local telecommunications competition will be the main topics of discussion at an informal roundtable discussion to be held by the Public Service Commission.

The PSC invites all interested persons, as well as state legislators and representatives of Montana's telecommunications industry, to participate in the roundtable, which will be held Tuesday, March 5, beginning at 9 a.m. in the House Chambers of the State Capitol.

Dr. Vivian Witkind Davis of the National Regulatory Research Institute will open the roundtable with an overview of the federal legislation, especially as it relates to local competition. Following her presentation, roundtable participants will present their views on the new law, local competition in Montana and other relevant issues.

PSC Chair Nancy McCaffree noted that many changes in the telecommunications industry will result from the federal legislation and that these changes will affect Montana.

"I urge legislators and those running for the legislature to join us in learning more about the bill and participate in the discussion about its effect on Montana consumers," McCaffree said. Interested persons may also submit written comments on these issues to: Dennis Crawford, PSC, PO Box 202601, Helena 59620-2601.

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