

**ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2009**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB183**

---

**Hearing Date:** Tuesday February 10, 2009  
**Committee On:** Transportation and Telecommunications  
**Introducer:** Fischer  
**One Liner:** Provide requirements for the sale of an exchange under the Nebraska Telecommunications Regulation Act

---

**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

---

**Vote Results:**  
**Aye:** 7 Senators Campbell, Fischer, Gay, Hadley, Janssen, Loudon, Stuthman  
**Nay:**  
**Absent:**  
**Present Not Voting:** 1 Senator Lautenbaugh

---

**Proponents:**  
Dusty Vaughan  
Jerry Vap

**Representing:**  
Introducing for Senator Deb Fischer  
Nebraska Public Service Commission

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

---

**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 183 requires the approval of the Public Service Commission for the sale of a telecommunications exchange.

The bill requires a telecommunications company that proposes to sell any exchange to submit an application to the commission for approval of the sale. Within twenty days, the commission shall publish notice of the sale in the newspapers of the counties that are provided local exchange service by the company. The company shall reimburse the commission for the costs of the notice.

In approving or rejecting the application, the commission will consider the public interest, specifically to the exchange involved:

1. the adequacy of local phone service;
2. the reasonableness of rates for local service;
3. the provision of 911 service;
4. the payment of taxes by the company; and
5. the ability and commitment of the company to provide modern, state-of-the-art telecommunications services.

If the commission does not hold a hearing on the matter, it shall issue an order within 45 days after publication of the notice. If the commission does hold a hearing, it shall issue an order within 120 days after publication of the notice. The order may include conditions that the commission feels are necessary to ensure protection of the public interest.

The bill provides definitions of an "exchange" and a "sale".

---

**Explanation of amendments:**

The committee amendment, AM 324, makes one small change to the bill. The commission shall consider the ability of the telecommunications company to provide modern, state-of-the-art telecommunications services, but not the commitment of the company to provide modern telecommunication services.

---

Deb Fischer, Chairperson