



# PUBLIC NOTICE

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## COMMON CARRIER BUREAU DESIGNATES PETITIONS RELATING TO TRUTH-IN-BILLING RULES FILED BY VARIOUS PARTIES PERMIT-BUT-DISCLOSE

### CC DOCKET 98-170

On May 11, 1999, the Commission released *Truth-in-Billing and Billing Format*, First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, CC Docket No. 98-170 (*Order*). In the *Order*, the Commission adopted principles and guidelines to ensure that telephone bills provide consumers with the information they need to make informed decisions in the telecommunications marketplace, as well as with tools to protect themselves against telecommunications-related fraud such as slamming and cramming.

The rules adopted in the May 11 order were originally directed to take effect on July 26, 1999. In response to concerns raised by the Office of Management and Budget, however, the Commission delayed the effective date of those requirements relating to highlighting of new service providers and identification of deniable and non-deniable charges until April 1, 2000. The remaining rules were designated to take effect November 12, 1999.

Between October 26, 1999 and November 5, 1999, several carriers have filed with the Commission petitions requesting, among other things, that the remaining rules designated to take effect November 12, 1999 also be delayed until April 1, 2000. The Commission is continuing to receive such requests. These waiver petitions include filings made by the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., National Telephone Cooperative Association, Inc., and Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies, on behalf of their respective carrier members. The Commission has determined that these petitions have broad implications that reach beyond the parties to the proceeding and therefore designates all waiver petitions filed in CC docket 98-170 as permit-but-disclose. While waiver proceedings are restricted under the Commission's ex parte rules, the Commission has discretion under 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1200(a) to conclude that certain waiver proceedings involve broad policy issues and should be classified as permit-but-disclose.

Copies of these filings are available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. Copies may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, International Transcription Services, 1231 20th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

By the Chief, Common Carrier Bureau.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**