

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 15 of Title 56 an article numbered 5.2,*
3 *consisting of sections numbered 56-484.7:5 and 56-484.7:6, relating to telephonic reading services.*

4 [H 798]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 15 of Title 56 an article numbered**
8 **5.2, consisting of sections numbered 56-484.7:5 and 56-484.7:6, as follows:**

9 *Article 5.2.*10 *Telephonic Reading Services.*11 *§ 56-484.7:5. Definitions.*12 *As used in this article:*13 *"Department" means the Department for the Blind and Visually Impaired.*

14 *"Operation" means those functions reasonably and directly necessary for the provision of telephonic*
15 *reading services, including contract procurement and administration, and public education and*
16 *information regarding such service.*

17 *"Telephone company" means a certificated local exchange telephone company that owns, manages,*
18 *or controls any plant or equipment or any part of a plant or equipment within the Commonwealth for*
19 *the conveyance of telephone messages, either directly or indirectly.*

20 *"Telephonic reading services" means audio information provided by telephone to the blind and*
21 *visually impaired through a nationally available, multistate service center to registered readers in all*
22 *parts of the Commonwealth, including the interstate acquisition and distribution of daily newspapers*
23 *and other information.*

24 *§ 56-484.7:6. Provision of service.*

25 *The Department, with the assistance of the Commission, shall be responsible for the provision and*
26 *operation of telephonic reading services for each telephone line in each residential household within the*
27 *Commonwealth in which resides at least one individual who is blind or visually impaired.*

28 **2. That the provisions of this act shall not become effective unless an appropriation of general**
29 **funds effectuating the purposes of this act is included in the general appropriation act for the**
30 **period July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2006, passed during the 2004 Session of the General**
31 **Assembly and signed into law by the Governor.**

ENROLLED

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