

April 3, 2003

S 975. ACCESSIBLE ELECTRONIC INFO ACT/BLIND/DISAB'D. *TO ESTABLISH AN ACCESSIBLE ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SERVICE FOR BLIND AND DISABLED PERSONS AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE SERVICE.* As title indicates, adds new GS 62-157A requiring that Division of Services for the Blind establish service and directing NC Utilities Comm'n to require that all local exchange telecommunications companies impose a surcharge on subscribers to fund service. Provides that surcharge shall be established in consultation with Division and shall be no be more than \$.01 (per line, per month) over any existing surcharge. Appropriates \$70,000 for 2003-2004 to DHHS to establish service. Effective July 1, 2003.

Intro. by Dorsett.

Ref. to	GS 62, APPROP
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April 30, 2003

S 975. ACCESSIBLE ELECTRONIC INFO ACT/BLIND/DISAB'D. Intro. 4/3/03. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Deletes Sec. 2, which appropriated \$70,000 to establish service, and amends GS 62-157A(d) to provide that Division of Services for the Blind should obtain a grant or in-kind support from programs such as Telecommunications Relay Service under GS 62-157. Makes technical changes. Effective when bill becomes law (was, July 1, 2003).