

## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 5

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 18, 1996

By DiFRANCESCO and LYNCH

1 A **SENATE RESOLUTION** establishing a Senate Special Study Committee on  
2 the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

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4 **WHEREAS**, The "Telecommunications Act of 1996" was recently passed by  
5 Congress, and was signed into law on February 8, 1996; and

6 **WHEREAS**, The "Telecommunications Act of 1996" was enacted with the goal  
7 of promoting competition and reducing regulation in order to secure lower  
8 prices and higher quality services for American telecommunications  
9 consumers, and of encouraging the rapid deployment of new  
10 telecommunications technologies; and

11 **WHEREAS**, The act will have revolutionary effects on the nation's  
12 telecommunications system, particularly in those States such as New Jersey  
13 which have sophisticated telecommunications and information services  
14 networks and large corporations which deal with telecommunications and  
15 information services matters; and

16 **WHEREAS**, The act, by deregulating telecommunications and encouraging the  
17 rapid deployment of new technologies, will have far-reaching effects on the  
18 consumers of telecommunications and information services; and

19 **WHEREAS**, It is incumbent on the Legislature to become better informed  
20 about the requirements of the "Telecommunications Act of 1996," to  
21 consider its implications for New Jersey and to study the possible areas in  
22 which State action or regulation will or could be called for; now, therefore,  
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24 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*  
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26 1. There is hereby established the Senate Special Study Committee on the  
27 Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. The committee shall consist of five  
28 members of the Senate, with three members of the committee to be appointed  
29 by the President of the Senate and two members to be appointed by the  
30 President of the Senate upon recommendation of the Senate Minority Leader.  
31 The committee may appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the  
32 committee. The Senate President shall designate one of the members to serve  
33 as chairman.

34 2. It shall be the duty of the committee to study the telecommunications  
35 issues raised by the "Telecommunications Act of 1996," to consider the

1 implications of this act for the State of New Jersey and to study the possible  
2 areas in which State action or regulation will or could be called for. The  
3 primary function of the committee shall be to serve as a resource for informing  
4 and educating the Legislature as to the subject matter within the scope of the  
5 committee's study.

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7 3. a. The committee may meet and hold hearings at the places it  
8 designates during the sessions or recesses of the Legislature, and shall be  
9 entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the services of officials and  
10 employees of any State, county, or municipal department, board, bureau,  
11 commission, or agency as it may require.

12 b. The committee shall further be entitled to employ stenographic and  
13 clerical assistance and incur traveling and other miscellaneous expenses as it  
14 may deem necessary in order to perform its duties, within the limits of funds  
15 appropriated or otherwise made available to it for its purposes.

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17 4. The committee shall report its findings in a report to the President of the  
18 Senate as soon as practicable upon completion of its work.

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21 STATEMENT

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23 This Senate resolution establishes the Senate Special Study Committee on  
24 the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. The committee is to consist of  
25 five members of the Senate, three of whom are to be appointed by the  
26 President of the Senate and two of whom are to be appointed by the President  
27 upon recommendation of the Senate Minority Leader.

28 It is the duty of the committee to study the telecommunications issues raised  
29 by the "Telecommunications Act of 1996," recently passed by Congress and  
30 signed into law, to consider the implications of that act for the State of New  
31 Jersey and to study possible areas in which State action or regulation will or  
32 could be called for. The primary function of the committee will be to serve as  
33 a resource for informing and educating the Legislature on telecommunications  
34 issues. The resolution does not provide for the committee to make any  
35 recommendations concerning possible legislation.

36 The committee is to report its findings to the President of the Senate as  
37 soon as practicable upon completion of its work.

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- 3   Creates Senate Special Study Committee on the Federal Telecommunications
- 4   Act of 1996.
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