

Introduced by

Natural Resources Committee

(At the request of Public Service Commission)

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact subsection 6 of section 49-21-01.7 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to delivery of bills for public service commission expenses.

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

4 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 6 of section 49-21-01.7 of the North Dakota  
5 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

6 6. Employ and fix the compensation of experts, engineers, auditors, attorneys, and other  
7 such assistance for complaints, investigations, and other proceedings relating to  
8 telecommunications companies. The expense of any hearings, and the compensation  
9 and actual expenses of any employees of the commission while engaged upon any  
10 such hearings must, ~~upon the order of the commission,~~ be paid by the  
11 telecommunications company involved in such hearings. The commission shall  
12 ascertain the exact cost and expenditure. ~~After giving the telecommunications-~~  
13 ~~company notice and opportunity to demand a hearing, and after a hearing, if any, is-~~  
14 ~~held, the commission may~~ and render a bill ~~and make an order~~ for payment. The bill  
15 ~~and order~~ must be delivered by ~~certified~~ electronic or paper mail or personal delivery to  
16 the managing officer of the telecommunications company. Upon receipt of the bill ~~and~~  
17 ~~order~~ for payment, the telecommunications company has thirty days within which to  
18 pay the amount billed. All amounts not paid within thirty days after receipt of the bill  
19 ~~and order for payment~~ thereafter draw interest at the rate of six percent per annum. If  
20 the telecommunications company disputes the amount of the bill, the company shall  
21 request a hearing. Amounts collected by the commission under this subsection must  
22 be deposited in a special account within the public service commission.