SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC) OF THE PHILIPPINES)

Second Regular Session



S E N A T E P. S. Res No. 521

17 SEP 27 P5:52

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RECEIVED !

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE FIFTY (50) PESOS ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR PAPER BILLING OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7394 or the Consumer Act of the Philippines provides: "It is the policy of the State to protect the interests of the consumer, promote his general welfare and to establish standards of conduct for business and industry";

WHEREAS, the National Telecommunications Commission's mandate is to regulate and supervise the provision of public telecommunications services under Republic Act No. 7925 or the Public Telecommunications Policy Act of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Globe Telecommunications Incorporated (Globe Telecom) is a cellular, broadband, and mobile data service provider¹ with two million four hundred eighty-nine thousand seven hundred nineteen postpaid subscribers (2,489,719);²

WHEREAS, Globe Telecom transitioned from paper billing to paperless billing, or digital billing, on September 2016;³

WHEREAS, Globe Paperless Billing is the initiative of Globe Telecom to replace their postpaid customers' paper bill with an electronic copy, or eBill, which is sent directly to the their email address;⁴

WHEREAS, Globe Telecom postpaid customers still have the option to receive a paper bill for a minimum charge of fifty (50) pesos per month as part of the company's Go Green advocacy which helps conserve paper;⁵

⁵Ibid

¹Corporate Information Globe Telecom, Inc. Website; http://www.globe.com.ph/about-globe/corporate-info

²Yugatech Online Tech News Philippines Website; http://www.yugatech.com/news/globe-is-now-the-largest-mobile-operator-in-the-philippines/#hvXZT48z1EDPD9Pg.97

³Yugatech Online Tech News Philippines Website; http://www.yugatech.com/telecoms/globe-transitions-to-digital-bill-delivery-starting-sept-1/#34ggDM0lUtBoIxvE.97

⁴Paperless Billing Globe Telecom, Inc. Website; https://www.globe.com.ph/help/postpaid/paperless-billing?jsid=1506404095041

WHEREAS, Globe Telecom postpaid customers who are not inclined with today's technology will have trouble accessing their billing statements and may be obliged to pay fifty (50) pesos charge to receive a paper bill;

WHEREAS, effective July 8, 2017, PLDT Inc., formerly Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company has started charging fifty (50) pesos to new subscribers who opted to receive paper bills as approved by the National Telecommunications Commission;⁶

WHEREAS, the combined charge of one hundred (100) pesos per month to avail of Globe Telecom and PLDT Inc. paper bills is expensive especially in cases wherein the consumer is a Globe postpaid mobile subscriber with a PLDT home line with internet connection;

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate Committees to investigate, in aid of legislation, the fifty (50) pesos additional charge for paper billing of telecommunications companies.

Adopted,

MARIA LOUPDES NANCY S. BINAY

⁶PLDT Home Website; http://pldthome.com/paperless-billing