AN ACT

To enact R.S. 45:1206, relative to the Public Service Commission; to grant authority to regulate internet and internet service providers; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 45:1206 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1206. Internet service providers; internet regulation; powers of the commission

A. As used in this Section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Internet" means the international computer network of both federal and nonfederal interoperable packet switched data networks or any other commonly understood general terms and meanings; including broadband, broadband internet, fiber, and fiber internet.

(2) "Internet service provider" means any entity providing services that enables a consumer to access the internet.

B. The Public Service Commission shall have and exercise all necessary power and authority to supervise, govern, regulate, and control all privately owned and operated internet service providers not under the supervision and control of any city, town, or parish as provided by Section 7 of Article VI of the Constitution of Louisiana, and to fix reasonable and just charges for the services furnished by such internet service providers.
C. The commission shall have power to adopt and enforce such reasonable
rules, regulations, and modes of procedure as it may deem proper for the discharge
of its duties in connection with such companies and works, and it may summon and
compel the attendance of witnesses, swear witnesses, compel the production of
books and papers, take testimony under commission, and punish for contempt as
fully as is provided by law for the district courts.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute
part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 542 Original 2022 Regular Session Hollis

Abstract: Grants the Public Service Commission authority to regulate internet service and
internet service providers within this state.

Proposed law defines "internet" and "internet service provider."

Proposed law gives the Public Service Commission (PSC) regulation authority over privately
owned internet service providers, including to fix reasonable and just charges, and requires
the PSC to exercise such authority.

Proposed law grants the PSC the power to adopt administrative rules as are necessary to
carry out its duties and authority under proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 45:1206)