



Office of Administration  
GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY  
301 West High Street, Suite 250-A \* Post Office Box 1668  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Matt Blunt  
Governor  
Karen Benson  
Interim Chair  
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Executive Director

November 10, 2008

Public Service Commission  
Governor Office Building  
200 Madison Street  
PO Box 360  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Re: Case No. TO-2009-0042

Commissioners:

I am writing to you as a new member of the Missouri Relay advisory committee and a consumer with a hearing loss, my recommendation is to maintain the surcharge the same (.13 cents). Due to the unstable economy, it will be prudent to maintain a cushion for the possibility of increasing costs for administration, equipment and labor expenses.

I also recommend that the commission look into changing the statutory language of the Missouri relay services to reflect the increasing use of wireless technology devices that are becoming more in demand than the traditional TTY landline use. St. Louis has the second largest adult cochlear implant group in the country. They are primarily of working age and major consumers of wireless technology. Many children with hearing loss are being diagnosed early and parents are opting for the cochlear implant surgery for their children. These children are being placed in regular school settings and many will utilize wireless technology to ease communication with the hearing population.

Another statutory change should be to change the criteria for utilizing the TAP program from 70 DCB to 40 DCB to enable more consumers of working age to have access to this technology.

Thank you for your consideration and efforts.

Sincerely,  
*Linda Baker*

Linda Baker, MSW, ACSW  
Executive Director

*Keeping the Promise of the Americans with Disabilities Act  
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