

NEWS RELEASE

INDIANA UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION (IURC)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 11, 2018

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IURC Recognizes Lifeline Awareness Week

The National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), have designated September 10-14, 2018, as National Telephone Discount Lifeline Awareness Week. During Lifeline Awareness Week, the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (Commission) recognizes the importance of Lifeline access in Hoosier communities, and recommends that anyone having trouble paying their phone or broadband bills reach out to their telephone service provider to see if they're qualified for discounted voice or broadband services.

The Lifeline program allows low-income consumers who participate in certain public assistance and veterans' pension programs, or qualify based on income, to receive a discount of at least \$9.25 per month off of their monthly bill for phone, broadband, or bundled phone and broadband service. Individuals can find more information on program eligibility and rules by contacting local telecommunications providers.

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The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (Commission) is a fact-finding body that hears evidence in cases filed before it and makes decisions based on the evidence presented in those cases. An advocate of neither the public nor the utilities, the Commission is required by state statute to make decisions that balance the interests of all parties to ensure the utilities provide safe and reliable service at just and reasonable rates. The Commission also serves as a resource to the legislature, executive branch, state agencies, and the public by providing information regarding Indiana's utilities and the regulatory process. In addition, Commission members and staff are actively involved with regional, national, and federal organizations regarding utilities issues affecting Indiana. For more information, please visit www.in.gov/iurc.