

**IDAPA 31 – IDAHO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**31.46.02 - RULES GOVERNING TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICES (TRS)**

**DOCKET NO. 31-4602-1601**

**NOTICE OF RULEMAKING - ADOPTION OF TEMPORARY RULE**

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The effective date of the temporary rule is May 1, 2016.

**AUTHORITY:** In compliance with Sections 67-5226, Idaho Code, notice is hereby given this agency has adopted a temporary rule. The action is authorized pursuant to Section 61-1306, Idaho Code.

**DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY:** The following is the required finding and concise statement of its supporting reasons for adopting a temporary rule:

Telecommunication Relay Services (TRS) enable a communications-impaired person to send and receive messages to and from a non-communications-impaired person, using specialized telecommunications equipment. The Commission contracts with a TRS Administrator that requests and evaluates proposals from TRS providers that wish to enter a contract to be a TRS provider for Idaho. The temporary rule was needed to enable the Administrator to proceed with securing a TRS provider, thus ensuring that TRS services could continue. Idaho's TRS program ensures the health, safety, and welfare of deaf and hearing-impaired citizens in Idaho. Without a TRS program, an emergency situation can become fatal if, for example, a hearing-impaired person cannot communicate with first-responder personnel. The Commission understands that this rule may change as a result of the later negotiated rule process.

**TEMPORARY RULE JUSTIFICATION:** Pursuant to Section(s) 67-5226(1)(a), Idaho Code, the Governor has found that temporary adoption of the rule is appropriate to ensure protection of the public health, safety and welfare, specifically Idaho's deaf and hearing-impaired community.

**FEE SUMMARY:** No fee or charge is imposed or increased by the temporary rule.

**ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS:** For assistance on technical questions concerning the temporary rule, contact Grace Seaman at 208-334-0352.

DATED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2016

  
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