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**OLR Bill Analysis**

**sSB 448**

***AN ACT CONCERNING CABLE TELEVISION EQUIPMENT AND THE DISCLOSURE OF RATES FOR CERTAIN SERVICES OFFERED BY TELEPHONE AND CABLE COMPANIES.***

**SUMMARY:**

This bill requires cable TV companies to allow their customers to buy the equipment needed to watch their service directly from the cable company, as long as the sale is allowed by federal law. It prohibits the companies from refusing service to a customer who uses equipment from a third party if the equipment does not violate any federal laws, requirements, or standards.

The bill also requires telephone companies and cable TV companies to display their available tiers of service, including monthly costs and included programming, in clear, concise, and understandable language on their web sites.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012, except for the provision regarding telephone and cable TV and service tiers, which is effective upon passage.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Energy and Technology Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 21 Nay 0 (03/28/2012)