

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

LIFELINE AWARENESS WEEK

September 14-20, 2009

WHEREAS, In today's highly interconnected world, telephones provide a lifeline to emergency help and a vital link to government services, community resources, friends and family; and

WHEREAS, not everyone can afford the cost of home telephone service; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission have joined in collaborative efforts with telecommunications service providers to make telephone service more affordable for low-income consumers by providing a discount on the connection fee and monthly charges for basic telephone service; and

WHEREAS, the Link-Up America (Link-Up) and Lifeline Assistance (Lifeline) programs offer tremendous benefits for eligible consumers and make basic telephone service more affordable; and

WHEREAS, the Link-Up program provides a discount to consumers on the installation of telephone service in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the Lifeline program provides a discount to eligible low-income customers on their monthly phone bill; and

WHEREAS, consumers should not be without local phone service because they cannot afford it, and therefore the promotion of Link-Up and Lifeline is imperative to ensure that all U.S. citizens have access to affordable basic local telephone service; and

WHEREAS, the FCC, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC), the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates (NASUCA), other federal, state and local agencies, organizations, and telecommunications companies are committed to increasing awareness about the availability of the Link-Up and Lifeline programs and are encouraging eligible citizens to sign up for the programs.

THEREFORE, I, Edward G. Rendell, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim September 14-20, 2009 as LIFELINE AWARENESS WEEK in Pennsylvania. I call upon government agencies, industry leaders and consumer advocates to educate residents about programs for telephone connectivity during Lifeline Awareness Week and further initiate and promote outreach events during this special week.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this nineteenth day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and nine, and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

Edward G. Rendell

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Governor