

**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120**

**Pennsylvania Telecommunications
Relay Service (TRS) Annual
Surcharge Recalculation**

**Public Meeting held June 18, 2020
3015209-TUS
Docket No. M-2020-3015209**

STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN GLADYS BROWN DUTRIEUILLE

Before us for consideration today is a staff recommendation to establish the annual surcharge used to fund Pennsylvania's Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS). TRS is a state-funded service authorized by the FCC under federal law to ensure that visually or hearing-challenged persons or other similarly situated citizens can communicate over the telecommunications network like other citizens.

I am loath to change the surcharge status quo while we are in the midst of a pandemic and an historic economic downturn because there may be an increased need for the program as the year's extraordinary events play out. However, be aware that I will closely track the fund's balance over this next year with an eye toward possibly recommending a lower surcharge when this matter comes to us for review next year.

DATE: June 18, 2020



**Gladys Brown Dutrieuille
CHAIRMAN**