

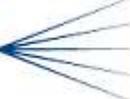
*Delivering Customer Satisfaction
One Installation at a Time*



Baker
Installations

Since 1976

1.800.864.4229
baker-installations.com

BCAP  **NewsClips**

December 5, 2014

**[Bloomberg
Comcast and
AT&T Deal
Decisions May
Come in
March, U.S.
Says](#)**

**[Fierce
Wireless
Amazon's
Bezos defends
Fire phone as
a 'bold bet,'
says 'stay
tuned' for
more phone
developments](#)**

**[Associated
Press
Wolf isn't
ready to say
how he'd fix
budget mess](#)**

**[Pittsburgh
Tribune-
Review
Gov.-elect
Wolf names
advisers,
Democratic
bigwigs to
transition team](#)**

The state Public Utility Commission might ban utilities from charging customers extra to receive their monthly bills in the mail.

On Thursday, the PUC voted 5-0 to seek public comment on the possible prohibition. The PUC took its proposed stance on the issue after two telecommunication firms tried to get such a charge approved. The PUC turned them down. But as part of its investigation of those applications, the PUC found 25 other telecoms in the state were already charging extra. A PUC spokeswoman declined to disclose the firms' names or specify the charges, because now the PUC has started an investigation of them.

The proposed rule states that an extra charge for receiving a paper bill is "not consistent with the Public Utility Code, Commission regulations, long-standing precedent and well-established practices of Pennsylvania public utilities." An extra charge for a paper also would constitute "unreasonable and inadequate service per the Public Utility Code," the proposed rule says. Written comments on the proposed rule will be due within 30 days of it being published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

Most recently, in October the PUC rejected a request from Cavalier Telephone Mid-Atlantic to charge business customers \$3.95 a month for a paper bill. Cavalier serves the Philadelphia region. In 2008, Cordia Communications unsuccessfully sought permission to operate in Pennsylvania. Cordia, later acquired by Windstream, charged \$1.25 a month for paper bills. – Lancaster Intelligencer

Starz LLC, the pay-TV network with more than 50 million subscribers, is considering alternatives to a sale after reaching out to potential bidders who passed on making an offer, according to people familiar with the matter.

CBS Corp., Lions Gate Entertainment Corp., AMC Networks Inc. and 21st Century Fox Inc. were among the companies that considered buying Starz and didn't make bids because they thought it was overvalued, said the people, who asked not to be named because they weren't authorized to speak publicly. Offers for the network, controlled by billionaire John Malone, were due last month, the people said.

Philadelphia Inquirer Corbett-Wolf race broke spending record

WHTM-TV (Harrisburg) Tom Wolf's Jeep will be his official vehicle (video)

pennlive.com Political insiders: 'Compromise' is key to Gov.-elect Tom Wolf's gubernatorial success

Starz, which has an enterprise value of about \$4 billion, is now considering investments and partnerships with U.S.-based or European-based media companies in lieu of selling itself, although nothing will be determined this year, one of the people said. Any deal would need to have beneficial tax implications for Malone, the person said. Malone wants to maintain control of the company, another person said. Potential buyers considered Starz's valuation too high because of uncertainty around the company's future programming, two of the people said. Netflix Inc. acquired exclusive U.S. rights to Walt Disney Co. movies beginning in 2016 -- films that currently air first on Starz as soon as seven months after being in theaters.

Without Disney films and amid potential consolidation among pay-TV providers, buyers feared declining affiliate fee revenue for Starz, the people said. Starz will earn about \$1.90 per subscriber per month from pay-TV providers in 2015, according to research firm SNL Kagan, unchanged from this year. Starz, which owns the Starz and Encore premium channels, has about 56 million subscribers. Encore customers have declined for five consecutive quarters, to 33.7 million as of Sept. 30 from 35.1 million. The network hired LionTree Advisors LLC earlier this year to seek potential buyers, people with knowledge of the matter said in September. The Englewood, Colorado-based company dropped 16 percent to \$27.76 yesterday in New York, giving it a market value of almost \$3 billion. Representatives for Starz, CBS, Lions Gate and AMC and Fox declined to comment.

Malone's Liberty Media Corp. spun off Starz in January 2013. Malone continues to hold a 46 percent voting stake, according to an April regulatory filing. Liberty Media Chief Executive Officer Greg Maffei, who serves as chairman of Starz, said in September 2012 the network would be more valuable combined with a media company that operates other cable channels. More than two years later, no deal has been struck. Starz offers a mix of films and original programming. Its original shows include "Outlander," a drama based on a series of novels by Diana Gabaldon, and "The Chair," a documentary series about a competition between directors attempting to make their first feature film. – Bloomberg

President Obama on Thursday signed into law a bill to renew an expiring satellite TV law. The five-year extension of the Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act (STELA) will make sure that more than 1 million rural satellite subscribers are able to watch distance broadcast channels such as CBS and ABC. Without reauthorization, companies' ability to beam in those channels would have expired at the end of the year. Some lawmakers had attempted to use the opportunity to make drastic changes to the current system for transmitting TV stations, but many of those reforms failed to gain much traction.

One significant change, however, will end a security standard in cable boxes that companies have said prevents them from innovating with new, less expensive technology. That move met vocal opposition from TiVo and some Democratic lawmakers, who feared it would allow cable companies to look out competition. The bill easily passed through the House and Senate last month. – The Hill



127 State Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101
717.214.2000 • bcaps.com

First in Broadband.
The Future of Broadband.®