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For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE

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PSC Reports Lifeline/Link-Up Enrollment Increases 34 Percent

ATLANTA, July 29, 2008 – The Georgia Public Service Commission (Commission) reports a 34 percent increase in the number of telephone subscribers to the Lifeline/Link-Up Georgia Program over the last twelve month period. As of June 30, 2008 there were 99,665 Lifeline/Link-Up subscribers. This is the biggest increase these programs have experienced since inception more than 15 years ago.

The increase is primarily attributable to partnering with other state agencies (the Division of Family and Children's Services, which administers the Georgia Food Stamp Program and the Georgia Department of Community Health) along with a strong outreach effort to get the word out about these valuable programs.

Lifeline provides a monthly credit of up to \$10 off your monthly local service telephone bill (AT&T gives a \$13.50 monthly credit); while, Link-Up assists with paying up to 50% of installation costs, not to exceed \$30 (AT&T pays 100% of installation costs).

In order to qualify for these programs, you must be a participant in any one of the following programs: Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TNAF), Food Stamps, senior citizens discount from power or gas company, SSI, Medicaid, Federal Public Housing Assistance, or Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Contact your prospective or current telephone service provider to find out if they offer Lifeline/Link-up credits and if so, to file an application to receive Lifeline or Link-Up assistance. You may apply the discount towards either your home phone or your cell phone service.

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