

To whom it may concern:

I oppose loosening the regulations on straight to voicemail communications, especially in regards to political campaigning and commercial operations. I believe that allowing entities to send messages directly to a person's cell phone voicemail is a gross violation of that person's privacy and highly intrusive. This is especially true because there is no effective way to prevent those voicemails from reaching one's phone. A person can block calls, block text messages, but can't block direct to voicemail messages as of now. Moreover, the notion that a direct to voicemail message is any less intrusive than text message is false. People receive notifications when they get a voicemail often in a similar manner to the notifications they receive when they get a text message. Thus, until methods are available to opt out of and block direct to voicemail communications those communications should continue to be subject to their current limitations.

Sincerely,

Ian Hall