

92-77

**RAMADA HOTEL**  
**BWI Airport**

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**ARIZONA'S**  
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AUG 8 3 13 PM '94

August 2, 1994

Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

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AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

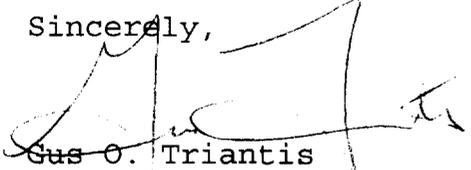
Dear Mr. Hundt:

Please accept this letter as a vote of "NO" to the billed party preference (BPP) proposal now before the FCC.

I understand the intention of this proposal, consumer choice and protection. BPP will allow each consumer the choice of long distance carrier at contracted rates. This is a sound concept and one that should be employed. However, consumers already have this choice and are exercising it at every hotel and pay phone across the country. Why should we endure more costs to mandate a service that we already have, just in a different fashion?

BPP will cost the phone companies a lot of money and this will ultimately result in a higher per minute rate to my business and customers. This will also effect my revenue from commissions I receive from Direct Dialed Long distance calls and my 0+ commissions will all but disappear. This revenue helps my business and we need for it to continue, not diminish.

I urge you not to pass BPP. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
  
Gus O. Triantis  
Managing Partner  
BWI Parkway Hotel Group

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92-77



DOCUMENT PREPARED

The State of Texas  
House of Representatives  
Austin, Texas

AUG 8 3 21 PM '94

Capitol Office:  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin TX 78768-2910  
512-463-0688

District Office:  
416 W. University Drive  
Suite 200  
Denton, TX 76201  
817-565-0083  
1-800-371-6179

Mary Denny  
State Representative  
District 63

August 1, 1994

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AUG 9 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Chairman Hundt:

We have been informed that the FCC is considering the use of a "billed party preference" for 0+interLATA payphone traffic and for other types of operator-assisted interLATA traffic. If BPP system is realized, Inmate Phone Systems, as they are used today, will no longer exist.

The Denton County Sheriff's Department is strongly opposed to BPP for inmate phone systems, the main reason being the control over the calls generated by over 850 inmates in this correctional facility. This Department is committed to protecting law abiding citizens' and victims' rights. The phone system currently being used allows them to control and practically eliminate call abuse and fraud by the inmates, which is a major problem for the victims of crimes as well as family and friends who don't want to be harassed. They would lose the ability to effectively control inmate calls. Implementing BPP would eliminate the revenue-generating agreements that they have with the inmate phone services; revenue that is badly needed. We strongly oppose this program, and earnestly hope that it is not implemented.

Thank you for your serious consideration of my objection to the BPP system.

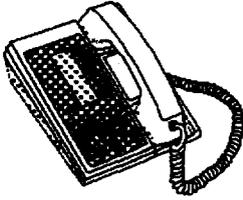
Very sincerely,  
*Mary Denny*  
Mary Denny

MD/bf

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92-77



# PHILCOMM

*Consulting in Hotel Telecommunications*

August 3, 1994

Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Sir:

Please accept this letter as vote of "NO" to the billed party preference (BPP) proposal now before the FCC.

I understand the intention of this proposal, consumer choice and protection. BPP will allow each consumer the choice of long distance carrier at contracted rates. This is a sound concept and one that should be employed. However, consumers already have this choice and are exercising it at every hotel and pay phone across the country. Why should we endure more costs to mandate a service that we already have, just in a different fashion?

As a telecommunication consultant to the hotel industry, I have provided service to about 100 hotels in the last three years. In that time I have seen the costly effects of previous FCC rulings, primarily the Equal Access issue. Agreeing with the intentions of of these rulings I have helped my clients to conform. Now, I must urge my clients to resist BPP in their own interest.

BPP will cost the phone companies (long distance carriers, OSP's, and the LEC's) jointly around \$2 billion. That will result in higher per minute rates to all consumers and businesses. BPP will cost the hotels, individually, thousands of dollar each year in lost revenues. BPP will put many people in the telecommunications industry out of business adding more to our unemployment lines.

I urge you not to pass BPP.

Sincerely,

*Daniel W. Phillips*  
Daniel W. Phillips  
President

*PHILCOMM*

*Consulting in Hotel Telecommunications*  
(703) 503-8068

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CONFIDENTIAL

92-77

8515 Rixlew Lane  
Manassas, Virginia 22110  
(703) 361-6202  
Metro 631-1943

August 3, 1994

Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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AUG 9 1994

REGISTRATION DIVISION  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Please accept this letter as a vote of "NO" to the billed party preference (BPP) proposal now before the FCC.

I understand the intention of this proposal, consumer choice and protection. BPP will allow each consumer the choice of a long distance carrier at contracted rates. This is a sound concept and one that should be employed. However, consumers already have this choice and are exercising it at every hotel and pay phone across the country. Why should we endure more costs to mandate a service that we already have, just in a different fashion?

BPP will cost the phone companies (long distance carriers, OSP's, and the LEC's) jointly around \$2 billion. That will result in higher per minute rates to all consumers and businesses. BPP will cost the hotels, individually, thousands of dollars each year in lost revenues. BPP will put many people in the telecommunications industry out of business adding more to our unemployment lines.

I urge you not to pass BPP.

Yours very truly,

L. ROSS LEITH  
President

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CONFIDENTIAL



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

P.O. BOX 186

AUG 8 10 47 AM '94 LANCASTER VIRGINIA 22503

804-462-5111

RONALD D. CROCKETT, SHERIFF

Aug. 1, 1994

Hon. Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Stree NW  
Washington, DC 20554

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AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC

Re: CC Docket No. 92-<sup>77</sup>~~787~~ Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Mr. Hundt,

Please note my opposition to Billed Party Preference in connection with telephone service to inmate facilities.

Based on an analysis of my facility, including staffing, inmate needs, family needs, records management and documentation of inmate activities, billed party preference application in jails is a major detriment. Because of the potential for inmates to claim rights violations, particularly with regard to attorney access, it is necessary for each telephone call made by an inmate to be documented. Such documentation is currently done by the telephone service provider.

Billed party preference will eliminate the service provider, thereby requiring my staff to document telephone calls. The documentation process would have to include the times and dates each inmate requested use of the telephone, all attempts made to place the call, actual calls made, receiving party name and telephone number, and length of the call. I know of no jail or other facility which has the manpower to log such information.

In addition, billed party preference leaves a wide window of opportunity for fraud by inmates. Under the current system, my staff can have a subscriber's number blocked out of service on request of the subscriber. There is also a cap on the number of actual or attempted calls to any single number within a 24 hour period. I do not believe that such limitations can be effected under the proposal. Further, I can currently block out critical numbers to avoid nuisance calls to government offices and volunteer services.

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Hardware requirements in a correctional facility are vastly different than those for business and residential use. The current provider installs and maintains the equipment, which must withstand constant use and often abuse. While this issue is not seen as a part of the proposal, it must be considered. Under the proposal, I would expect to be obligated to purchase all hardware with tax dollars which are not available.

While there may be some concern that inmates and their families will be charged higher tariffs for the calls than is standard, you should consider whether this issue has been addressed at the state level. The revised standards for jails in Virginia requires the tariff to be the same as that for all operator assisted calls from a pay telephone in the locality.

I urge you not to adopt the current proposal with regards to inmate facilities.

Truly Yours,



Ronald D. Crockett  
Sheriff

RDC/mrs

cc: file

92-27

DIRECTOR GENERAL

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AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

July 21, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hunt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hunt:

As the Sheriff of Lafayette County, Missouri, I am writing to you regarding the FCC proposal for Billed Party Preference. We are currently using an Inmate Phone Service which has been very helpful in managing our inmate facility, and we would not want to lose the benefits we receive from its services.

This service was most advantageous during a recent prisoner escape. Through the records maintained by AmeriTel, we were able to determine a potential destination, possible companions, and other related information. This helped result in the prisoner's capture within a brief time. I believe that the Billed Party Preference proposal will eliminate this and other valuable benefits we now obtain from our ability to select our phone provider..

I feel that this added information available for law enforcement contributes greatly to the safety of the general public. The current practice of billing the originating telephone for a call should not be changed in the case of calls from inmate facilities. Please give this proposal a vote to exempt inmate facilities from Billed Party Preference regulations.

Sincerely yours,



Bob Teichman  
Sheriff

zzb

cc: Senator John Danforth  
Senator Christopher Bond

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Henry County Courthouse  
100 W. Franklin, Room 8  
Clinton, MO 64735



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(816) 885-6963 Ext. 234  
(816) 885-5587  
Fax # (816) 885-4279

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**Jack M. Reynolds**

Henry County Sheriff

JULY 26, 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In the matter of	)	
	)	CC DOCKER 92-77
Billed Party Preference	)	
For o+ InterLATA calls	)	

We at the Henry County Sheriff's Department are concerned about the proposed Billed Party Preference for long distance calls. There are 3 particular areas that will be affected to our detriment, namely:

1. We will lose blocking control of our inmate phone calls.
2. We will lose a revenue stream and the inmate family phone costs could go up.
3. The potential for fraud will creep back into the system.

Along with the major concerns, we also see a problem with who is going to pay for all this?

We eagerly oppose the BPP and encourage the FCC to do the same.

Thank you.

*Jack Reynolds*  
 Jack M. Reynolds  
 Sheriff, Henry County



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To Protect and Serve

STATE OF MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



WILLIAM DONALD SCHAEFER  
GOVERNOR

MELVIN A. STEINBERG  
LT. GOVERNOR

BISHOP L. ROBINSON  
SECRETARY

RICHARD A. LANHAM, SR.  
COMMISSIONER

MELANIE C. PEREIRA  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

**DIVISION OF CORRECTION**  
SUITE 311, PLAZA OFFICE CENTER  
6776 REISTERSTOWN ROAD  
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215-2342  
(410) 764-4100  
TTY FOR THE DEAF: 486-0677  
July 25, 1994

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AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington DC 20554

Re: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Mr. Hundt:

Inmate telephone systems should not be subject to Billed Party Preference.

The proposed Billed Party Preference (BPP) means that instead of dealing with one inmate phone service provider that controls and processes all calls from a facility, the inmate calls would be routed over any number of different carriers. BPP will eliminate security controls currently in place and open up the telephone network to excessive fraud. BPP would limit corrections officials authority to control routing of inmate telephone calls, to limit the types of calls, to control whether the calls are handled on an automated basis only or must go to live operators who could be manipulated to place calls the prisoner should not make.

We need a provider who will respond to our needs and will work with us to address the special problems that arise in the inmate environment. We cannot afford to have this control taken away and have prisoner calls routed to just any long distance carrier- and ~~control~~ not to a carrier over whom we have no authority or control. Institutional and public safety demand that we maintain control over prisoners access to long distance carriers.

Prison phone service should not be subject to Billed Party Preference. I urge you to reverse the current FCC approval of BPP and preserve the inmate phone service currently utilized in Maryland facilities.

I appreciate your consideration of my comments on this important issue, and I am available to speak with you or your staff if you have questions or need additional information. I may be reached at (410) 764-4186.

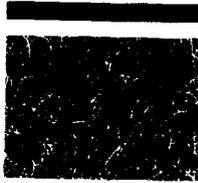
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Lanham, Sr.", written over a horizontal line.

Richard A. Lanham, Sr. No. of Copies rec'd  
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August 4, 1994

Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Sir:

Please accept this letter as vote of "NO" to the billed party preference (BPP) proposal now before the FCC.

I understand the intention of this proposal, consumer choice and protection. BPP will allow each consumer the choice of long distance carrier at contracted rates. This is a sound concept and one that should be employed. However, consumers already have this choice and are exercising it at every hotel and pay phone across the country. Why should we endure more costs to mandate a service that we already have, just in a different fashion?

As a Hotel Operator, the impact of costs will be detrimental. The industry is finally beginning to turn around and it disturbs me to see this potential ruling come along and put another cog in the wheel.

I urge you not to pass BPP.

Yours Truly,

Steve D. Ewell  
General Manager

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**MECOSTA COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT**

HENRY "HANK" WAYER  
SHERIFF

AUG 8 3 14 PM '94

JAMES F. STOCKWELL  
UNDER SHERIFF

LAWRENCE COX  
JAIL ADMINISTRATOR

August 5, 1994

AUG 9 1994

Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C.

Re: CC Docket No. 92-77 Opposition to Billed Party Preference

Dear Chairman Hunt:

This Correctional Facility is opposed to the implementation of Billed Party Preference (BBP) at Jails.

Based on our security needs and the well-being of the citizens of our community, it is obvious to us that we must maintain control of the Vendor/Carrier the inmates in our facility use for phone service.

If the control is taken away from us, we could not afford to supply the necessary equipment to facilitate this service to our inmates, therefore, the service would have to be eliminated due to the loss of funds received from the service.

Concerning rates charged to Inmates. We are sensitive to them, in fact, had a vendor overcharging in our opinion, and the rate for calls was reduced to the inmates after we notified the vendor of our concern.

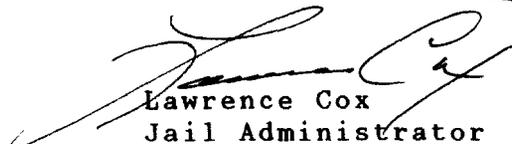
In closing, its important that we maintain control over inmate phone services for several reasons that include: security of our facility, security for the Citizens of our community, and to be able to continue this service to the inmates in our facility.

Thank You very much for your consideration.

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Respectfully submitted,

  
Henry (Hank) Wayer  
Sheriff

  
Lawrence Cox  
Jail Administrator

92-77

# MAINE SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

Edward J. Reynolds, President  
Sheriff, Penobscot County

AUG 8 3 13 PM '94

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AUG 9 1994

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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 30, 1994

Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street N. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

The proposed FCC rule change dealing with billed party preference would cause a significant problem for Maine's County Correctional Systems. This is true because most jails in the state use revenues from the current system to provide the inmates with various programs and therefore the tax payers realize the benefit through property tax relief. Also, there would be a great loss of security whereby the jails would not be in a position to protect the rights of citizens with billed party preference in place.

We Sheriff's of the State of Maine urge you to refrain from forcing the BPP system upon us and add more burden to an already over taxed and under funded County Correctional System.

Sincerely,



Edward J. Reynolds  
Sheriff  
Penobscot County

EJR/kl

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# MIDLAND COUNTY

## OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

**JOHN S. REDER, SHERIFF**

2727 RODD STREET • MIDLAND, MICHIGAN 48640 • TELEPHONE (517) 839-4600  
FAX (517) 631-9478

August 5, 1994

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AUG 9 1994  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**RE: BILLED PARTY PREFERENCE, CC DOCKET NO. 92-77**

Dear Honorable Hundt:

Please be advised that the Midland County Sheriff's Office is very much opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference at inmate facilities and county jails.

We have analyzed the security and administration needs at our facility and found it necessary to route our inmate calls from our facility to a single carrier that is equipped to handle inmate calls and with whom we have a contractual agreement. We do not allow prisoners to have an open access to telecommunications and the freedom to use the carrier of their choice. Billed Party Preference would take away our rights to coordinate calls from our facility through a carrier that has a proven track record, and further, one whom we trust. Instead, calls from our jail would be routed to a number of carriers, none of whom would owe us any obligations, and I sincerely doubt they would be trained to handle inmate calls.

We have found it necessary to have installed certain telephone equipment that is specifically designed to handle calls from jail and prison inmates. This equipment helps us to prevent fraud abusive calls and other criminal activity over the telecommunications network. Given the constant budget constraints under which we operate, we can not afford to provide the equipment that is necessary without the help of inmate phone service providers. Further, we feel that Billed Party Preference would eliminate revenue that now finances our inmate telephones.

Should Billed Party Preference be applied to inmate facilities, it would severely limit a way for us to finance phones for the inmates, and we sincerely doubt that there would be inmate phone providers that would be willing to assist us. With the loss of phones

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**The Honorable Reed E. Hundt**

**Page 2**

**August 5, 1994**

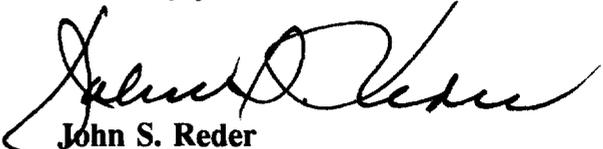
**being available to the inmates, we would have another problem to deal with; and as far as the morale in inmates and the increased tension that it would provide, it would make it even harder to manage an already captive audience.**

**The Office of the Sheriff is extremely sensitive to the rates that families must pay for inmate calls, and we fully appreciate the Federal Communications Commission's concern if sheriffs did not take responsibility to protect families from abusive rates. The FCC's solution is of great concern to us. The proper and perhaps more effective action would be to adopt some sort of rate ceiling on calls from inmates and then let the sheriff enforce these rate ceilings with the contracts with individual providers. There is little doubt in my mind that sheriffs in the State of Michigan would be committed to requiring rates that are fair, equitable, and reasonable.**

**Billed Party Preference takes away the ability of our office to employ what we consider important security and administration measures that have been instituted in our jails and facilities which would ultimately reduce the availability of inmate phones. This, in turn, decreases the productivity of our staffs.**

**Please, do not adopt rules and regulations that hinder our security and administration rules and decisions that clearly lie within our discretion and for which we are responsible to the public.**

**Sincerely yours,**



**John S. Reder**

**cc: The Honorable James H. Quello  
The Honorable Andrew C. Barret  
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong  
The Honorable Susan Ness  
The Honorable Donald W. Riegle, Jr.  
The Honorable Carl Levin  
The Honorable David Camp  
The Michigan Sheriffs' Association**

**JSR:mjd**

# Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department

Thomas H. Kocourek  
SHERIFF



Kenneth J. Petersen  
INSPECTOR

DUPLICATE COPY DESTROYED

RECEIVED

July 26, 1994

AUG 9 1994

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

SUBJECT: CC DOCKET #92-77

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am writing to voice my concerns about the proposed Billed Party Preference regulation. The correctional facility inmate phone industry would be severely jeopardized by BPP, affecting inmates, their families and correctional facility efficiency. *For this reason, we are asking that inmate calls be exempt from the proposed BPP regulation.*

For the past ten years, administrators of correctional facilities have been able to put into place a very effective/efficient system for allowing inmate phone calls. The right to choose a phone service provider at our correctional facility has been a key to our success. This service has always been delivered to us at a very reasonable rate. What's more, inmate phone commissions have been a significant source of revenue for our facility and have helped us to improve inmate services dramatically. *We use this revenue to fund various programs within the correctional facility including staff education, inmate health services, inmate education and recreation, staff and inmate safety, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, inmate family visitation, and services to indigent inmates.*

Here are a few of my concerns about Billed Party Preference:

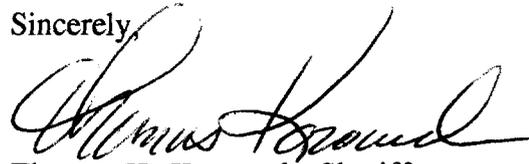
- 1) It strips correctional facility administrators of the right to choose inmate phone providers.
- 2) Without call control, facilities would be unable to control fraud problems currently handled by inmate phone providers.

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- 3) Under BPP, correctional facilities would no longer have control over inmate calls, which means no call tracking or blocking. **Under BPP inmates could conceivably harass judges, witnesses, jury members, and even the victims of their crimes.**
- 4) The average length of stay in jails would likely increase because inmates would not have the same level of phone accessibility that currently exists that they require to make arrangements for bond. **This costs everyone!**
- 5) Without the authority to process calls, inmate phone providers would no longer have the revenue to provide sophisticated phone systems used in prisons today. The end result: fewer phones available to inmates with fewer security features. Because of the cost of installing our own equipment, there would likely be fewer phones available to inmates, and in some cases the facility would have to revert back to old ways of supervising calls, consequently consuming staff time and involving a waiting period for phone accessibility for the inmate.
- 6) Technology for BPP would reportedly cost upwards of \$1.5 billion, an expense that would undoubtedly be passed along to the consumer.

**THE COSTS OF BILLED PARTY PREFERENCE FOR INMATES FAR OUTWEIGH THE BENEFITS.** If BPP does become regulation, we urge you to **make inmate calls exempt.** Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Kocourek, Sheriff  
Manitowoc County

THK:kl



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
HARRISBURG

RICHARD M. WALSH  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE GOVERNOR  
FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS

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AUG 9 1994

TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS  
DIVISION

July 29, 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C. 20554

RE: Billed Party Preference; CC Docket No. 92-77

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Governor's Office of Administration, is opposed to the application of Billed Party Preference (BPP) to collect calls placed by inmates at the State Correctional Institutions (SCI). The Office of Administration is responsible for all telecommunications service in agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor, to include the Department of Corrections.

We do not feel that this proposal is in the best interest of the Commonwealth for three principal reasons: the loss of the ability to manage and control the calls placed by inmates; the loss of revenue now used to support the Pennsylvania Inmate General Welfare Fund, and the fact that the cost of inmate calls to the billed party can be adequately controlled by means other than Billed Party Preference.

First. A Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation committee is currently reviewing proposals which, when a contract is signed, will in part provide a system for managing and controlling the calls placed by inmates from the 22 State Correctional Institutions (SCI). The extent of illicit calling activity and the dollar value of the scams perpetrated by prisoners using the inmate telephones have been substantiated by both State and Federal Secret Service investigations. As a result, the installation of a system to control inmate calling from each of our prisons has become mandatory to protect businesses as well as individuals from this inmate calling activity. The introduction of BPP will seriously impede the effort to

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manage and control inmate calls. Clearly, part of the control process is to develop evidence that will support the prosecution of not only the inmate, but also the intermediary or, in many cases, the called party. The introduction of the variable of a mix of long distance carriers will seriously impede the investigatory process if not eliminate most of the control methodology and procedures that can be used today. The ability to provide cross inmate or institution reporting within a data base and the tracking of calls to a particular number by one long distance carrier to resolve inmate telephone fraud is absolutely critical. In addition, although it seems obvious, it must be said that an interexchange carrier (IXC) cannot be expected to fund inmate fraud and control technology without having the traffic from the prison presubscribed. Clearly, the cost of the equipment and software is charged to the revenue derived from the inmate calls being delivered over its network.

Second. In Pennsylvania, all commissions from the inmate calling program must be put into the Inmate General Welfare Fund and be used only for recreational and leisure time activities of the inmates. The loss of the commissions derived from the inmate calling program will put an unacceptable requirement on an already severely strained General Fund Budget if the current level of services to the inmate population is to be continued. Based upon past history, the revenue from inmate telephone commissions is projected at \$2.2 million for the 1994-95 budget year. Examples of uses of these funds are: recreation and athletic equipment, outside entertainment such as musical groups, audio visual equipment, literary materials, visiting room and day room facilities and furnishings, artist programs and chapel activities.

Third. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania already has addressed the issue of the cost of calls from the prisons to inmate families and friends. The current contract for IXC service and the RFP now in evaluation stipulate that the vendor's rates for intralata collect calls from inmate stations must not exceed the rates charged by the local exchange carrier and approved by the Public Utility Commission (PUC), and that the vendor's rates for interlata collect calls must not exceed the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approved rates of the dominant long distance carrier. Rates are a valid concern. However, Billed Party Preference is not the solution.

I trust that you will find this information useful in assessing the impact of the Billed Party Preference proposal

Page 3 of 3  
Mr. Hundt

if it is adopted. From our point of view, the negative impacts of the proposal on the inmate calling arena far outweigh any potential benefits.

Sincerely,

  
Richard M. Walsh

# Gallahan oil co. inc.

P.O. Box 183 • Peru, IN 46970 • (317) 472-1963

July 25, 1994

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AUG 3 1994

Mr. W. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Room 222  
Washington, D.C. 20554

cc Docket No. 92 - 77

Dear Mr. Caton,

I am writing you to enter my comments on the proposed Billed Party Preference Mandate. My name is Kevin Gallahan and I, and my brother operate Gallahan Travel Plaza in Peru, Indiana. We are a medium sized Travel Plaza/Truck Stop serving interstate truck drivers, intrastate truck drivers, business people, traveling families and local customers. Our plaza was built in 1967 by our parents, and is still owned by our family.

Over the years, we have grown and remodeled our business several times. Each time making it better suited to serve our customers. We currently employ 65 people, with 50 being full-time. To be able to do this, we must generate income from our customers. Presently, there is extreme competitive pressure on marketing diesel fuel and gasoline, and the restaurant business. With the mandate of BPP, I agree with you that we will lose our commissions that we are currently receiving.

The commissions we receive enable us to provide a 200 square foot area in our building of payphones for our customers. Our phones are installed, and owned, by Ameritech and are presubscribed to AT&T. You seem to find fault with AT&T being presubscribed in so many locations. I can tell you that we use them for basicly 3 reasons.

1. Our customers who use our payphones are not getting ripped off with high rates or surcharges.
2. The vast majority of truck drivers and trucking companies seem to prefer AT&T.
3. The commissions paid to us allow us to dedicate part of our building to payphones.

Your report verifies that AT&T's rates are considerably lower than other OSP's. As your report also indicates, the high rates and most complaints of payphones come from third tier OSP's. The problem of those complaints and the high rates need addressed but the current system shouldn't be dramatically changed because of it.



In closing, I would like to reiterate the importance of the current commission schedules. They provide us with income so that we can provide the general public a comfortable, clean, safe place to make their calls. Without them, neither you, nor I, know what will happen to payphones located in private business. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Kevin Gallahan

KWG:da



Aviation Department

Office of the Director

Kansas City Downtown Airport  
250 Richards Road, Suite 265  
Kansas City, Missouri 64116-4272

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(816) 842-1991  
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July 29, 1994

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AUG 3 1994

CC MAIL ROOM

Mr. William F. Canton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street - Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 92-77, Phase II

Dear Mr. Canton:

It is my understanding that the Federal Communications Commission is considering issuing a final decision on Billed Party Preference (BPP), a proposal which would eliminate long distance carrier assignments based on contractual arrangements for operator assisted interLATA calls.

Under BPP, these calls would be intercepted by the LEC operator system which would determine the O+ preference interexchange carrier based on the party paying for the call (for instance, the cardholder on a calling card call, or the called party on a collect call). Calls would then be routed to the operator system of the designated interexchange carrier for completion.

Access code dialing could still be available to allow consumers to dial around BPP, but the presubscribed carrier for the phone would be ignored for calls dialed on a O+ basis, and aggregators would have less control over which carrier would handle calls from their locations.

The concept and stated intent of BPP, on the surface, sounds attractive. However, we are unconvinced that the clearly positive intent of the BPP proposal will be achieved in practice. We are concerned that the cost to implement BPP will greatly outweigh the benefits to the traveling public when compared to less costly, reasonable available alternatives.

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Mr. William F. Canton  
July 29, 1994  
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One of our key missions in a public airport is customer satisfaction. Among the concerns we have over the BPP proposal that we ask the FCC to consider are:

- Many recent and planned innovative telephone services and features may not be available at our facilities if BPP is implemented in a manner that eliminates the incentives of many of today's public pay phone providers.
- Consumers would be inconvenienced through their inability to use commercial credit cards in placing calls if BPP is adopted in a manner which produces such a result.
- Visitors from foreign countries could have great difficulty in placing calls charged to cards issued by foreign telephone companies or placed on a collect basis.
- The cost of implementing BPP could run into million of dollars, with end users bearing the brunt of these costs.
- The number of public pay phones available to consumers could be reduced by BPP if it is adopted in a manner that eliminates financial incentives for telephone providers and public facilities such as airports. As revenues from commissions paid for long distance telephones are reduced, space occupied by telephone banks could become more valuable for other concession revenue generation. The perceived benefit of carrier preference is not much of a benefit if it carries with it increased difficulty for a customer finding a pay phone in a public airport from which to place a call. Further, in the past four years, Kansas City International Airport has received fewer than five complaints from consumers regarding access to their preferred long distance carrier, leading us to the conclusion that the perceived "problem" is incredibly too small for the proposed, enormously expensive "fix" which is being considered.

In our view, the corrective action taken by the FCC in March of 1992 which included the elimination of the practice of "blocking" equal access codes, and requiring other aggregators to unblock access over a six-year period, depending upon equipment and cost involved, was the proper and most cost effective action required.

Mr. William F. Canton  
July 29, 1994  
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The Kansas City Department of Aviation is opposed to the adoption and implementation of BPP for public pay telephones at our airport facilities and respectfully request that the FCC suspend the introduction of the BPP proposal for public pay phone until such time as the questions raised about the impact on telephone consumers can be answered with greater certainty.

Sincerely,



John D. Solomon, A.A.E.  
Director of Aviation  
City of Kansas City, MO.

pf



# Alameda County Sheriff's Department

ALAMEDA COUNTY JAIL-SANTA RITA, 5325 BRODER BLVD., DUBLIN, CA 94568 (415) 551-6500

CHARLES C. PLUMMER, SHERIFF  
MARSHAL - CORONER - PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR  
DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

July 26, 1994

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

RECEIVED

AUG 9 1994

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECURITY

Re: Billed Party Preference, CC Docket Number 92-77

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

As Sheriff of Alameda County, and a Jail Administrator, I am requesting that the Federal Communications Commission exclude local jails from the proposed "billed party preference" system for 0+ Inter LATA pay phone traffic rules.

While there may be ways to prevent fraud under B.P.P., we would be losing our ability to closely monitor phone calls during investigations and would likely lose our ability to quickly block calls to protect victims and witnesses from intimidation and family and friends from unwanted calls and harassment. These issues are very important to me and the citizens of Alameda County.

Eliminating the 0+ commissions received quarterly would have the effect of earning a host of unfunded mandates. California jails have Inmate Welfare Funds which are by law to provide for programs, services and facilities for inmates. Telephone commissions are the primary, in some cases sole, source of revenue for the Inmate Welfare Fund. Many of these programs and services are now mandated by law and the courts, primarily the Federal courts. Elimination of commission revenues would force jails to tap already strapped budgets to fund these mandates.

The services and programs provided by the Inmate Welfare Fund includes Adult Education, GED Programs, basic literacy training, job training, substance abuse and family counseling, Chaplains, religious services and many more. Even basics such as supplying indigent inmates with personal hygiene supplies and letter writing material are provided for by this fund.

The revenues from our inmate telephone system could not be replaced. Local government does not have the funds to pay for the many programs financed with these revenues. We purchase recreation and exercise equipment and fund our law libraries along with paying the staff who supervise and manage these programs.

Without telephone revenues, all these programs would end. These are not just programs for the inmates. The education, training and counseling provided help these people become productive, law abiding individuals rather than a burden to the taxpayers.

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