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9/10-128

**From:** <aviator@interpage.net>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 11/20/97 9:41pm  
**Subject:** Recent Pay Phone Ruling

Dear Sir,

As a frequent traveler and pay phone user I am writing to protest your recent ruling allowing the pay phone companies to pick my pockets yet again. The net result of your ruling allowing pay phone companies to charge a total of 30 cents for every call to an 800/888 number is a massive decrease in the convenience and utilization of the nations phone network. As a direct result of this ruling many (if not most) providers of 800/888 numbers are blocking the use of those numbers from pay phones. This means that when I'm on the road I am frequently cut off and cannot call the numbers I need to call.

*Additionally, even for non-blocked numbers, this represents over a 30% increase in the costs of a telephone call for me when I'm on the road.*

I urge the commission to reconsider this ruling. I cannot see how this can possibly be in the public interest.

Robert Tarleton  
Palm Bay, Florida (U.S.A.)

**CONTACT INFO:**

Phone : (800) 886-2261  
Pager : (888) 886-2261  
eMail : aviator@interpage.net  
WWW : <http://www.interpage.net/sendpage.html>  
( Account:aviator, 150 character limit )

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**From:** BOB W ROBERTSON <bobrobertson1@juno.com>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 11/20/97 6:15pm  
**Subject:** NEW PAY PHONE COMPENSATION RULING

I THINK THE NEW PAY PHONE RULING IS UNFAIR TO PEOPLE THAT HAVE 800 AND 888 PHONE NUMBERS! THE TOLL FREE NUMBERS ARE FOR CUSTOMERS TO CALL TOLL FREE NOT TOTALLY FREE!!!! THESE NUMBERS ARE A COURTESY SO THAT THE LONG DISTANCE CHARGES ARE TAKEN CARE OF, NOT IF SOMEONE WANTS TO USE A PAY PHONE. IF SOMEONE WANTS TO USE A PAY PHONE THAY SHOULD PAY AT LEAST FOR THE USE OF THE PHONE. I AM PROTESTING THIS RULING IT IS UNFAIR TO THE BUSINESS PEOPLE PROVIDING TOLL FREE NUMBERS.

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**From:** <donrbell@sprynet.com>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 11/21/97 12:01pm  
**Subject:** PAY PHONE FEES

I believe the recent ruling allowing pay phone operators to levy charges for calls made to a "toll fee" 800 or 888 number is wrong. Someone in your organization must have been paid very well by the pay phone lobby to push this ruling through. It's nothing but a swindle. My next message will be to my Senators and my Representative. They need to look into this incompetent act.

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**From:** <EpicenFilm@aol.com>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 11/21/97 1:01am  
**Subject:** Telecom ACT of 1996

Dear Sirs,

I think your ruling on the telecom act of 1996 is wrong. The purpose of an 800/888 number is to be able to place a call without the caller incurring a charge. Many paging companies and calling card companies are passing your surcharge along to the customer. .30 cents per call is robbery. What else are you going to take away from us?

Adam Berman

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**From:** Alex Tobias <alex@encoding.com>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 11/21/97 4:17am  
**Subject:** ?

I think the new ruling that raises pay phone 800 calls to .30 violates the nature of an 800 call. The companies that pay for 800 services, do so because they are paying for their perspective customers to reach them for FREE. Yes, not much is free anymore, but those who are willing to set up 800 services should be able to let all customers use them (even customers who are using pay phones to do so). You really discriminate against those using pay phones when you charge them to dial an 800 number.

Please note this e-mail.

Alex Tobias

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*9/10-128*

**From:** BOB ROBERTSON <abahn@flash.net>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 11/21/97 11:59am  
**Subject:** pay phone ruling

I THINK THE NEW PAY PHONE RULING IS THE MOST REDICULIOUS THING I HAVE EVER SEEN. IT IS UNFAIR TO CHARGE THE PAY PHONE CHARGE TO THE 800 OR 888 BILL JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE USED A PAY PHONE OR A CALLING CARD. THE PERSON USING A PAY PHONE SHOULD PAY TO USE THE PHONE THE 800 AND 888 NUMBERS ARE DESIGNED TO TAKE CARE OF THE LONG DISTANCE NOT THE USE OF PAY PHONES AND CALLING CARDS. THIS MUST BE CHANGED!!!!!!

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From: Dave Mark <davem@write.com>  
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
Date: 11/21/97 3:23pm  
Subject: Charging For 800 #?? What Are You Thinking?

Dear FCC,

There is noway to justify 30 cents per call, all equipment has already been paid for.... What could you have been thinking? What about help hotlines??

In this industry it is not wise to tax old technology, while there is profitable new technology...

- Dave Mark

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\* "I've attended several good universities, listened to some of the\*  
\* great parliamentary debates of our time, but seldom heard better \*  
\* discussions of basic issues than I did as a boy standing on \*  
\* wooden platform behind a soda fountain." - Hubert Humphery \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* It is always the best policy to tell the truth, unless, of \*  
\* course, you are an exceptionally good liar. -Jerome K. Jerome \*  
\* \* \* \* \*  
\* - Dave Mark \*  
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**From:** Arthur Stone <artstone@io.com>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 11/21/97 12:11pm  
**Subject:** Pay Phone Compensation Plan

From:  
Arthur Stone - President  
Stone Institute for Challenged Adolescents

Dear sirs,

It is my opinion that the ruling placing the pay phone burden on the called party when our 800/888 number is dialed, is not reasonable as we already pay for the call and have no control over calls from payphones. If a person is going to call a toll free number from a pay phone, let the calling party deposit the quarter or whatever to enjoy the benefit of a otherwise free call.

Non-profit organizations, such as SICA, must manage their overhead carefully to maximize the monies available for their beneficiaries.

Please reconsider this decision and place the initial calling cost on the party placing the call, not on the Companies and Organizations that provide this valuable 800 service to their clients and customers.

Yours truly,  
Arthur Stone

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From: beverly robertson <bevrobertson@juno.com>  
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
Date: 11/21/97 10:35am  
Subject: 800# CHARGES FROM PAY PHONES

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FROM: BEVERLY ROBERTSON  
FT WORTH MIDTOWN R.V. PARK  
2906 W 6TH ST.  
FORT WORTH, TX 76107

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DEAR SIRs;

I AM WRITING THIS LETTER TO YOU DUE TO THE CHANGES YOU JUST MADE  
ON MY 800# WITH OUT ANY NOTICE TO ME WHAT SO EVER UNTIL AFTER THE FACT.

I THING THIS WAS PASSED ON TO THE WRONG GROUP. BY ALL RIGHTS AND REASONS  
THE PERSON USING A PAY-PHONE SHOULD BE CHARGED TO USE THAT PAY-PHONE  
WEATHER THE CALL IS A LOCAL OR LONG DISTANCE CALL..

IF SOME ONE WANTS TO USE A PAY-PHONE WHY SHOULD THEY NOT BE CHARGED AT  
LEAST THE LOCAL PAY-PHONE CALL RATE.

I HAVE PEOPLE THAT CALL ME ON MY 800# FROM ACROSS TOWN, JUST BECAUSE THEY  
CAN WALK UP TO A PAY-PHONE AND NOT EVEN HAVE TO STICK A QUARTER IN AND  
NOW YOUR TELLING ME I'M GOING TO HAVE TO PAY TWICE  
FOR THEM TO CALL ME FROM A PAY-PHONE. EXCUSE ME BUT THIS SEEMS JUST A  
LITTLE OFF SOMEHOW.

I AM A SMALL BUSINESS OWNER AND TO ADD MORE CHARGES TO ANYTHING, WILL BE  
A STRAIN ON MY BUDGET.

AS I HAVE ALREADY SAID IT IS NOT MY PLACE TO PAY FOR SOMEONE TO HAVE THE  
RIGHT TO USE A PAY-PHONE

A PAY-PHONE IS JUST THAT IT IS A PAY PHONE. NOT A PAY-PHONE EXCEPT IF YOU  
WANT TO MAKE AN 800# CALL AND IF THIS IS THE CASE THEN I GUESS THAT ALL  
THESE YEARS YOU HAVE BEEN MISREPRESENTING JUST WHAT A PAY-PHONE IS. IT  
WOULD APPEAR THAT ALL PHONE BOOTHS IN THE WORLD SHOULD HAVE TO CHANGE  
THEIR NAME FROM " PAY PHONE " TO " PAY-PHONE EXCEPT UNLESS YOU WANT TO  
MAKE AN 800# -888# CALL THEN IT SHOULD BE A FREE-PHONE

SINCERLEY;

BEVERLY ROBERTSON

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**From:** Babu Mengelepouti <dialtone@vcn.bc.ca>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 11/21/97 1:19pm  
**Subject:** Payphone access fee

I think that it is completely ridiculous that a payphone owner should get 30 cents to place a call which costs him nothing. A local call costs 25 cents here, and the owner of a COCOT must use a PAL (Public Access Line) which is billed by the minute. So the payphone owner actually incurs a cost to complete a local call, where he does not incur a cost to complete a toll-free call. Yet under your recent compensation decision, the payphone owner makes more money on a "toll free" call than a local call.

I also think that it is ridiculous that many payphones continue to charge money to call toll-free numbers, and they receive this additional compensation. A payphone is a public service as well as a tool to make money and an owner should have to allow a few non-revenue-producing calls as part of the privilege of operating a payphone. The billing and administrative expense created by this is unfavorable to consumers everywhere also, since toll-free rates are going up.

The deregulation of the payphone industry has already made it scam-ridden and you, the FCC, are helping perpetuate even more scams. Who do you represent, the people or large telephone companies? By selling off public airwaves to private companies while continually reducing the amount available for public use, giving away huge amounts of spectrum to commercial broadcasters, and now this, I am beginning to suspect the latter.

Babu Mengelepouti  
Blaine, Washington

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