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96-128

**From:** Michael Strutton <strutton@mindspring.net>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 12/5/97 8:08am  
**Subject:** payphone and 800 #s

I think your ruling on 800/payphone charges is horrible!!! By doing this you are making a lot of undeserving payphone companies alot richer.

I just wanted to take a moment and tell you that this citizen is upset with it.

thanks,  
Mike Strutton

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Michael Strutton  
MindSpring Enterprises Inc.  
Product Development MindSpring Business  
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**From:** "Tom Vineski" <loosechickens@hotmail.com>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 12/5/97 2:12pm  
**Subject:** Tollfree access charge

96-128

Dear sir/madam, RE: Docket 96-128/FCC96-388 Pay Phone Payout

We recently became aware of the access charge back to receivers of tollfree calls from pay phones...\$.284 seems like quite a bizarre cost and unfortunately one that will be passed directly on. We are RVers and rely exclusively on the pay phone system while traveling. To our way of thinking, a simple \$.25 charge to the caller would be much more equitable and would provide revenue directly to the pay phone owner, instead of requiring what will probably become a complicated reimbursement transaction. We do not dispute that pay phone companies should be compensated for machine use and access costs. The issue for us is how the compensation will be complicated with little control given to the receiving party.

Please reconsider and refigure your ruling.

Tom & Nancy Vineski

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**From:** Russ Lamb <russ@adcomoxf.com>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 12/5/97 3:36pm  
**Subject:** payphone 800 number surcharge

96-128

Dear FCC,

I use hundreds of 800 numbers for my paging customers. I know there was a great plan to be fair to the payphone providers (the bells mostly) and give them a piece of the revenue from 800 number calls. I don't believe you intended to give them 5 to 7 times to revenue that the customer pays normally, nor did you intend for it to be so sloppily implemented that the bells are billing dorm rooms and hospital rooms as payphone calls to the end user of 800 services. But, even a 100 page ruling can't dictate common sense. The bells have none and payphone companies (bells) have duped the FCC yet again into giving them major cash windfall from the long distance customers.

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We have now received our first long distance bill with the payphone surcharges and you should know BellSouth can't currently identify payphones separately from campus PBX's serving dorm rooms, or hospital PBX's serving hospital rooms, or prison phones. They all show on my WorldCom bill as "payphone". And that is not what the rulemaking said. It said Payphones. Not dorm rooms, not hospital rooms, not even prison phones. SO until the Bell's get their act together, let them pay the payphone companies. Of course they own most of the payphones anyway, so why would they care?

It is not right to bill me for the customers selecting to use one of those phones. It is like giving payphone operators 6 or 7 times the money that we normally loose on an 800 call. Instead of 6 or 7 cents, its 35 to 50 cents and I have absolutly no control over the expense that could run.

Why not let the caller pay at the payphone just like a local call? The customers that use 800 numbers for pagers from my company just had their price hiked 50% to cover the billing we received because we have absolutly no control over the number of calls originated from payphones.

Russ Lamb  
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P.O. Box 47  
Oxford, MS 38655  
601-234-2337

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**From:** <touch@bga.com>  
**To:** A4.A4(FCCINFO)  
**Date:** 12/5/97 4:28pm  
**Subject:** Pay Phone Surcharge

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Rose Crellin  
Common Carrier Bureau  
Enforcement Division  
Federal Communications Commission

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Please accept my respectful, and strenuous opposition to the 10/09/97 FCC Order establishing a per call surcharge for calls originating from a pay phone.

My specific objection is that this surcharge is assessed without the prior knowledge of the caller. No notification, warning, or advisement is posted or communicated to inform the caller of the charge.

If such notification is required under the 10/09/97 Order, please be advised that such notification has not been implemented.

I suggest that the FCC issue an Addendum to the Order which requires the pay phone operator to add an intercept announcement, and require deposit of coins prior to completion of the call.

Touchstone Natural Products Marketing  
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**From:** <touch@bga.com>  
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Greg Lipscomb  
Common Carrier Bureau  
Enforcement Division  
Federal Communications Commission

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