

INTERNET FILING

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

From: BEBEAU <BEBEAU@prodigy.net>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 1/3/98 12:49pm
Subject: The new fee for 800/888 numbers!!!

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JAN - 5 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

96-128

I am outraged by this new \$.30 pay phone fee for dialing 800/888 numbers! Those calls are payed for by the recipient already. This added cost makes the entire concept of the 800/888 number self-defeating and prohibitive to those in the marketplace that don't have as much money as the telephone companies.

You have quadrupled the cost of a 1 minute phone call, which are the majority of my calls. This is extreme and uncalled for, and will have an adverse effect on everyone, except the phone companies!

I implore you to reverse this decision for the good of the growth of our economy.

Elon Bar-Evan
elonji@seqnet.net
Boulder, CO

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From: Murphymj <Murphymj@aol.com>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 1/3/98 7:32pm
Subject: new payphone compensation rate

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my opposition to an excessively high charge that the FCC has implemented on calling-card payphone calls. For business and personal reasons, I make a relatively large number of calls per month from payphones. I have been fortunate to find a calling card put out by Worldcom that charges a reasonable per minute rate for these calls. However, my recent calling card bill was 30% higher this month because of a \$ 0.30 surcharge placed on nearly every call. To make matters worse, Worldcom (and I imagine other calling card companies as well) cannot distinguish between calls originating from payphones and calls originating from phones with restricted lines or from certain other local telephone lines, I was charged the surcharge on those calls as well. This does not seem fair. I understand that companies that provide payphones to the public do need to be compensated but a more reasonable and fair approach would be to charge a smaller fee (\$0.10 - \$0.25) at the payphone in order to dial using a calling card and to make that initial deposit non-time limited.

Thank you for your time,

Michael J. Murphy
Boston, MA

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JAN - 5 1998

From: Fredric Steinberg <fmsteinberg@pol.net>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 1/3/98 11:10pm
Subject: FCC mandated surcharge for calling-card calls from pay-phones

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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96-128

Fredric M. Steinberg, M.D., M.B.A.
705 N. Crossing Way
Decatur, GA 30033-4157

Tele/FAX 404-325-8817
email: fmsteinberg@pol.net

January 5, 1998

Mr. William E. Kennard
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Kennard:

I recently discovered the FCC-mandated surcharge on all calling-card telephone calls made from pay-phone booths.

Never did I hear any debate on this topic, nor did I have the opportunity to vote on it. It was sprung on me quite by surprise, and an unpleasant surprise at that.

While the prices of goods and services may bounce up and down with deregulation, as the market dictates, this surcharge exceeds the per-minute charge of my calling-card company. It makes use of the card cost-ineffective.

It is improper for the FCC to dictate the price of rent of the use of the pay-phone when the market may do so much more creatively and cost-effectively.

In addition there is currently no accurate way for calling-card companies to detect the source of telephone calls -- from pay-phones or otherwise. It is high-handed of the FCC to demand of these companies the ability to differentiate calls when the state-of-the-art technology does not allow such.

I recommend repeal of this regulatory tax at once. Let the market choose the means and dimension of rent charges of telephone booths.

Sincerely,

/s/

Fredric M. Steinberg M.D., M.B.A.

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From: CHARLES PAULIUS <dobmastr@hcis.net>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 1/5/98 11:20am
Subject: LARGER FEES FOR 800 NUMBERS

JAN - 5 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DEAR CHAIRMAN WILLIAM KENNARD:

I HAVE REVIEWED THE CIRCUMSTANCES REGARDING THE INCREASE CHARGERS TO LONG DISTANCE CARRIERS AT THE PAY PHONE SITES. I FEEL THAT THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS ARE EQUITABLE FOR ALL THREE PARTIES CONCERNED. IN FACT, THERE ARE PAY PHONES THAT HAVE BEEN PRESENT FOR YEARS AND HAVE MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROFIT, BEYOND ANY MAINTENANCE OR REPLACEMENT COSTS. PERHAPS THE FEES SHOULD ACTUALLY BE REDUCED.

96-128

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

DR. & MRS. CHARLES D. PAULIUS, III, M.D.

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From: <cbcmzbs@webspn.net>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 1/5/98 1:27pm
Subject: public phone surcharges

JAN - 5 1998

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To whom it may concern:

Why is it that public phones get to charge us for 800 or 888 or numbers
begining with 950 access carriers 30 cents or 35 cents when a local call
is 25cents why is it that way If I beep someone for 15 seconds long
distance I am paying a lot of money for a 10 sec call
Maybe a law should be passed about charging for beeps
thanks
Herman Steinfeld

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From: R0343 <R0343@aol.com>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 1/5/98 2:11pm
Subject: Increased fees for 800 and/or 888 numbers use from pay phone

JAN - 5 1998

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To: William Kennard

As a owner of a small service business who's customers utilizes the toll free numbers, I think it is unfair to raise the pay phone rates for the 800 and/or 888 numbers.

The rate increase will be passed on to the subscribers of the 800 and/or 888 numbers.

What percent of the total calls made from a pay phone are 800 and/or 888 numbers?

Regards,

Randal Jones

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JAN - 5 1998

From: Brian Griffin <bagriffin@gw.ctg.com>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 1/5/98 2:43pm
Subject: Recent ruling on pager access through pay phones

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The decision to allow a charge for using a pay phone to access an 800/888 pager number is a bad idea.

Surely the small amount of time used to enter the typical short pager message does not add to the load of the existing phone system.

As these charges are hidden and not directly connected to cost (a short call is burdened the same as a long call) they are unfair and at best an announce on the path to the admirable communication system the US prides itself on.

The frequent emergency nature of these calls is threatening to the general peace of mind.

Reverse the decision please.

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From: charliebrown <charliebrown@unidial.com>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 1/5/98 3:38pm
Subject: additional fee charged for use of pay phone.

As a frequent user of phones in airport terminals I feel that the fee charged for using the pay phones is too much. I think the pay phone owners are entitled to get 10 or 15 cents max as compensation. Please review these charges. I have encouraged every person I know to call you on your toll free number (from a pay phone) and express their outrage at this charge. After your budget is blown made you will rethink your decision.

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