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From: "Jeffrey Marin" <JeffreyMarin@worldnet.att.net>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 3/27/98 5:45pm
Subject: Dial Around Compensation for pay telephone providers

While the FCC takes its time deciding issues about flat rate compensation on a monthly basis (which it had already ruled on once and had been sent back to reevaluate) and extending the amount of time that the carriers have to comply with the per call compensation, the carriers are already charging the customers for the Dial Around Compensation and holding the money. Some carriers are charging the customers 35 cents per call while arguing in the courts that 28.4 cents per call is excessive. If the pay telephone equipment wasn't there the carrier would have a hard time making anything on a call that couldn't be made.

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On the other side of the FCC, all the charges that the LECs can charge have already been imposed. As of January 1, 1998 our monthly telephone bill has increased \$5.10 due to additional line charges and PIC charges (since we choose No PIC due to fraud problems). The Universal Service Administrative Company is looking for contributions and so is the Interstate Telecommunications Relay Service. The North American Numbering Plan Funding attempted to levy fees against the pay telephone providers, and for now were unsuccessful.

On the state level new gross revenue taxes have been filed and implemented. All these charges have been imposed on an industry with the assumption that we are all getting rich on the Dial Around Compensation. Very little money indeed has been seen filtering through.

While we are being taxed and having additional fees eat away at our profits, the revenue we are supposed to be receiving as compensation for allowing our equipment to be used is tied up in bureaucracy and court. Unless the FCC makes some changes quickly there won't be much to argue about. The pay telephone will be at thing of the past. It becomes impossible to run a company paying to install & maintain equipment, while allowing others to use our equipment for free. How dare anyone dictate how much a private company can charge as a fair compensation for the use of the equipment that they purchased, installed, and maintain while others pass along any fee they choose to the customer.

Jeffrey Marin
President
Future Focus Telecommunications, Inc.

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