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90-128

From: "Ben C. Pyle" <pylevideo@mindspring.com>
To: A4.A4 (FCCINFO)
Date: 5/19/98 10:37pm
Subject: 800 Fees

How can the government force imposing fees on toll-free phone calls? This is absolutely unacceptable. How can this be overturned?

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96-128

From: Art Braiman <artourb@earthlink.net>
To: A4.A4 (FCCINFO)
Date: 5/20/98 12:13am
Subject: \$.30 pay phone fee for 800/888 numbers

This letter is in regard to the Telecom Act of 1996 (Docket No. 96-128), which mandated that a fee be paid by the phone companies (ATT, MCI, Sprint) to pay phone service providers for calls made from pay phones, effective Nov. 17, 1997. These pay phone providers, together with the phone companies, are charging us, the consumers, \$.30 for each call to the 800/888 number personal pagers and voicemails. I believe that this fee should be paid by the owner of the 800 number, such as Skytel, rather than the consumer. Paging fees are high enough, without having to pay 30 cents at the end of the month for each time someone calls my pager, or I have to call in to check my voicemail. Please review this situation. Thank you for your attention.

Art Braiman

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96-128

From: "Bryan K. Watson" <bwatson@watson.nu>
To: A4.A4 (FCCINFO)
Date: 5/20/98 5:11pm
Subject: Against the imposition of pay phone fees for 800 numbers...

Regarding Docket No. 96-128:

The Telecom Act of 1996 (Docket No. 96-128) has mandated that a fee be paid by phone companies (AT&T, MCI, Sprint) to Pay Phone Service Providers for all non-emergency calls originating from pay phones, effective Nov. 17, 1997. Pay phone service providers and long distance carriers will be charging a combined total \$.30* access fee for each call to an 800/888 number made from a pay phone. For calls into the SkyTel system, these access fees will be passed on by the long distance provider and will appear on your monthly SkyTel invoice.

*The pay phone service providers are charging \$0.284 each, and the long distance carriers are charging an additional \$0.016 each, for a combined total of \$0.30 for each call.

I am stating my position that this is an unfair imposition/taxation that will ultimately line the wallet of people that already have too much money. It hurts people like me, with a disabled (politically incorrect but true terminology) wife that depends on being able to get ahold of me from anywhere to my skytel pager 800 number. Because of this, I now have to spend another bundle of cash every month just to make sure that I am accessible to her when her MS flares up. But the flip-side is that I write that off on my taxes, so the public at large ultimately pays a price as well. So lets see... 30 cent/call fees cost the public ~ \$1.00 per month in my tax break and costs me ~ \$4.00 per month. Lets find a better way of taking care of those in need.

It is obvious that this portion of the act was not completely thought out by our servants in government, so please consider an amendment to correct this silliness!

Respectful, but still cynical,

--

Bryan K. Watson - Network Administrator Tel: (408) 366 9010 x 335
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