

RE: Proceeding Number (Docket Number) 12-375
Lower Cost of Prison Phone Calls

As a mother of an incarcerated person, I ask you, I plead with you, to do the right thing. Lower the cost of Prison Phone Calls. I assume 'for profit' companies will do anything to make bigger profits each year, their concern is not for the incarcerated or their families but for their bottom line. The use of for profit prisons is another whole issue to be dealt with at another time. However, I do expect The FCC do the right thing for inmates, families, and friends.

Vote to lower the phone rates, which are costing me, and MILLIONS of others, hundreds of dollars a month. Add to that the cost of trips to the prison (for those who are close enough to be able to drive there), vending machines food during visits, money for the inmate to buy shoes, clothes, toiletries, etc., and the cost becomes overwhelming. Families and friends of the incarcerated are used as profit centers for companies that do nothing to rehabilitate or retrain inmates. It only puts money into the pockets of hedge funds and for profit companies. All of this at the expense of those who can least afford it.

Put a stop to high cost phone calls, not only out of state but in-state as well. In-state calls make up 85% of all calls. We, as a society, should be ashamed, how could we claim we are the most just society?

The FCC should lower rates and end commissions.

Most inmates will return to our society someday. They need the support of those who love them and care about them, most of the time that is in the form of phone contact. They are paying their debt to society and should be able to return to society as whole persons. That cannot be accomplished by cutting off their ability to speak with the only ones left who still love and support them. We should not be a nation that allows families of the incarcerated to be extorted for profit, forced to support a revenue stream for sheriffs offices or prison coffers, or as revenue streams for profit seeking companies. .

The FCC should protect those who are often the most vulnerable, the last ones left who love and care for the incarcerated people. Lower the calls to at a maximum .05 per minute and remove the commissions and kickbacks.

Thank You,
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