

the opportunity to resolve the impediments that currently inhibit the ability of payphone owners and carriers to negotiate fair compensation for dial-around calls.” *Id.*, ¶ 18.

The IXCs, however, have no incentive to develop targeted call blocking. Currently, market rates for local coin calls are \$.35, or more than 45% higher than the current dial-around compensation rate of \$.24. The IXCs thus do not stand to gain from a move to a market-based approach. There is therefore no reason to believe that the carriers will go forward with implementing targeted call blocking absent an express Commission directive to do so.

If the Commission believes that targeted call blocking will open the way to the market-based approach to dial-around compensation that the Commission believes is correct, then the Commission must order the IXCs to implement the necessary technology as soon as possible. As the Commission found, “it will require a significant amount of time for IXCs to fully implement and deploy the necessary technologies.” *Id.*, ¶ 18. The IXCs will not even begin the implementation process until they are ordered to do so. Thus, the longer the Commission delays in ordering targeted call blocking, the longer it will be before dial-around compensation can move to the market-based approach that the Commission has identified as the preferred approach.

### **III. THE COMMISSION ERRED IN REQUIRING PAYPHONE PROVIDERS TO REFUND A PORTION OF THE DIAL-AROUND REVENUE FOR THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER 7, 1997 TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE *THIRD R&O***

The Commission should also reconsider its decision to order a true-up of the dial-around compensation amount paid to payphone providers during the period

from October 1, 1997 to the effective date of the *Third R&O*. In cases where retroactive modification of rates is permissible, the Commission must decide whether to impose such retroactive remedies based on the equities underlying each case:

[T]he [D.C. Circuit has] held that the standard of review of an agency refund order is *whether the agency decision is "equitable in the circumstances of this litigation."* The stress upon "equitable considerations," indicates that, while the agency has a duty to consider the relevant factors in making a refund decision and enjoys a broad discretion in weighing these factors, the precise manner in which these general principles should be applied by a reviewing court depends upon, as is traditional in cases sounding in equity, the facts of the particular case.

*Las Cruces TV Cable v. FCC*, 645 F.2d 1041, 1047-48 (D.C. Cir. 1981) (quoting *Wisconsin Elec. Power Co. v. FERC*, 602 F.2d 452, 457 (D.C. Cir. 1979)). As the court noted in remanding the proceeding to the Commission, the "Commission itself has acknowledged that it has the authority to adjust the compensation rate retroactively, 'should the equities so dictate.'" *MCI v. FCC*, 143 F.3d 606, 609 (D.C. Cir. 1998) (emphasis added) (citations omitted).

In *Towns of Concord*, the D.C. Circuit clarified that there is no presumption in favor of retroactive refunds or surcharges and, in fact, that equity generally disfavors the imposition of retroactive refunds:

Customer refunds are a form of equitable relief, akin to restitution, and the general rule is that agencies should order restitution *only when "money was obtained in such circumstances that the possessor will give offense to equity and good conscience if permitted to retain it."*

*Towns of Concord v. FERC*, 955 F.2d 67, 75 (D.C. Cir. 1991) (emphasis added) (quoting *Atlantic Coast Line R.R. v. Florida*, 295 U.S. 301, 309 (1935)). The Commission recently adopted the *Towns of Concord* decision, holding that "[j]ust as FERC has discretion to

consider matters of equity in ordering refunds under the Federal Power Act, we have discretion to consider matters of equity under the Communications Act.” *In the Matter of Investigation of Special Access Tariffs of Local Exch. Carriers*, 6 Comm. Reg. 555, 607 (1997) (citing *Towns of Concord*, 955 F.2d at 72; *Las Cruces*, 645 F.2d at 1046-48).

Here, however, the Commission ordered the true-up without first engaging in a balancing of the equities. Had the Commission evaluated the equities, it would have concluded that requiring a refund was inappropriate.

The current proceeding is an outgrowth of Docket No. 91-35, in which the Commission erroneously failed to award independent PSPs compensation for subscriber 800 calls. In that initial payphone compensation decision, the Commission erred in interpreting TOCSIA’s mandate to “consider the need to prescribe compensation” for independent PSPs as applicable only to access code calls, not to subscriber 800 calls. After several years of delay (granted at the behest of IXC’s and the Commission based on allegedly related reconsideration proceedings), the court of appeals finally heard APCC’s appeal of the Commission’s ruling, and overturned it, holding that Section 226 did in fact authorize the Commission to prescribe subscriber 800 compensation. Congress then confirmed, by enacting Section 276, that PSPs were in fact entitled to compensation for subscriber 800 calls. *Florida Pub. Telecomms. Assoc. v. FCC*, 54 F.3d 857 (D.C. Cir. 1995) (“*FPTA*”). The Commission folded its proceeding on remand of *FPTA* into the present proceeding on Section 276. APCC then requested that the Commission take a modest step to recognize independent PSPs’ entitlement to compensation under *FPTA* by making the interim compensation in this

proceeding retroactive at least to the date of the Public Notice initiating this proceeding. The Commission rejected this request, stating only that compensation was being provided “as soon as practicable.” *First R&O*, ¶ 126.

Given the Commission’s decision in the *Third R&O* to reduce further the dial-around compensation amount, the IXC’s can complain only that they paid too much compensation for, at most, about one year. Independent PSP’s were deprived of *any* compensation for subscriber 800 calls (about 70% of compensable coinless calls) for *more than four years*. It cannot be equitable to require PSP’s to give back any of the compensation they have received to date, when that compensation barely begins to make up for four years’ worth of uncompensated subscriber 800 calls.

By contrast, a retroactive refund would bestow a windfall on the IXC’s. Not only have the IXC’s passed on the full cost of dial-around compensation to consumers through direct surcharges, the IXC’s have also used a variety of other means to recover their costs that, in the aggregate, have resulted in a massive *over-recovery* for the IXC’s. Thus, rather than having been harmed by being required to pay dial-around compensation, the IXC’s have actually benefited, by turning dial-around calls into a profit center.

The IXC’s began passing on their dial-around costs as surcharges in December 1996. In December 1996, for example, Sprint revised its FCC Tariff No. 2 to add a \$.15 per call Payphone Surcharge for “all Originating payphone traffic including FONCARD traffic, toll free switched and dedicated services traffic, Prepaid card service traffic, and 10CPA-0 Plus Dial-around service traffic” effective December 1,

1996.<sup>8</sup> Effective April 1, 1997, this charge jumped to \$.35.<sup>9</sup> The other major carriers have put equivalent surcharges in place. See RBOC Coalition *ex parte* letter from Marie Breslin to Magalie Roman Salas (March 11, 1998), The Toll-Free Truth: Long Distance Companies Overcharge for Payphone Calls, 1, 3 (“Toll-Free Truth”) (pertinent pages attached hereto as Exhibit 2). The amount of these surcharges often exceeded the \$.24 rate in effect during the period in question. See APCC *ex parte* letter from Albert H. Kramer to Magalie Roman Salas (March 16, 1998), History of Payphone Compensation, 19 (“History of Payphone Compensation”) (pertinent pages attached hereto as Exhibit 3). Thus, there is every reason to believe that the surcharges alone *more* than fully compensated the IXCs for their dial-around costs during the period in question.

On top of the surcharges, however, the IXCs, most notably AT&T, Sprint, and MCI have raised their rates for subscriber 800 and some interstate and international services in direct response to their dial-around compensation obligations. History of Payphone Compensation at 17; Toll-Free Truth at 1-6. AT&T, for example, increased interstate 800 rates by 3% in February 1997, allegedly to recover increased payphone costs.<sup>10</sup> MCI spread “increase[d] rates as a result of the Payphone Recovery Order” across some 21 categories of service, none of them seemingly related to payphone

---

<sup>8</sup> Sprint has estimated that its total monthly cost of paying its \$4.97 share of the monthly \$45.85 per payphone interim compensation to PSPs is \$2.5 million, and it was recovering this new cost through the \$.15 surcharge. See APCC’s *Second RCO Comments* (Aug. 26, 1997), Attachment 5.

<sup>9</sup> See *id.*, Attachment 7.

<sup>10</sup> See *id.*, Attachment 8.

services. History of Payphone Compensation, 17. See also Toll-Free Truth, 6. These rate increases were over and above direct surcharges. According to a study performed by Frost & Sullivan, based on public information provided by AT&T, AT&T's rate increases *alone* totaled some \$642 million in 1997. See RBOC Coalition *ex parte* letter from Marie Breslin to Magalie Roman Salas (March 11, 1998) (attaching Frost & Sullivan study re AT&T rate increases).

In addition to recovery from end users, the IXCs also benefited from \$250,000,000 annually in payphone-specific reductions in interstate access charges paid to local exchange carriers ("LECs") as a result of the Commission's rules terminating all subsidies for the LECs' payphone operations. History of Payphone Compensation, 17. Substantial additional subsidies were also terminated at the state level. *Id.*

The IXCs have also received substantial cost savings as the result of the shift away from commissionable 0+ calls. From 1993 to 1997, the number of 0+ calls from the average payphone fell from 51 to 16 calls per month. See RBOC Coalition *ex parte* letter from Marie Breslin to Magalie Roman Salas (March 11, 1998) (attaching Frost & Sullivan study re IXC of cost savings). This 69% reduction has dramatically lowered the IXCs' payments to PSPs. The IXCs' total savings are approximately \$372 million. *Id.*

The IXCs have not passed to their customers on any portion of their cost savings from the reductions in access charges and commissionable 0+ calls. Thus, even if the surcharges and rate increases taken together merely resulted in the IXCs covering their costs—which is not the case—the IXCs have actually over-recovered by *at least*

\$622,000,000 per year in cost savings alone. When the excess surcharges and rate increases are factored in, it becomes apparent that the IXCs have had *at least* a double recovery of their costs. In light of this, the Commission cannot find that a balancing of the equities permits the IXCs to receive a refund and thus increase their already inordinate over-recovery.

### CONCLUSION

The Commission should partially reconsider the *Third R&O* as discussed above.

Respectfully submitted,

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Robert F. Aldrich  
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Attorney for the Colorado Payphone  
Association

Dated: April 21, 1999

# EXHIBIT 2

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Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 336-7893  
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**Marie T. Breslin**  
Director  
Government Relations - FCC

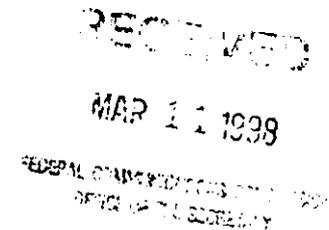
EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



March 11, 1998

**EX PARTE**

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554



**Re: CC Docket 96-128, Pay Telephone Reclassification and Compensation**

On March 10, 1998, Aaron Panner of Kellogg, Huber, Hansen, Todd and Evans and the undersigned, representing the RBOC/GTE/SNET Payphone Coalition, met with Glenn Reynolds of the Common Carrier Bureau.

The purpose of the meeting was to explain the attached materials developed by the Payphone Communications Alliance. Also provided were the attached study materials prepared by Frost and Sullivan to quantify IXC rate increases, savings in payphone commission payments and payphone-related access charge reductions.

Please call me if you have any questions concerning this material.

Sincerely,

*Marie Breslin*

Attachments

cc: G. Reynolds

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*GM*

The Toll-Free Truth:

# Long Distance Companies Overcharge for Payphone Calls

*Long distance companies are charging consumers hundreds of millions of dollars more than necessary to compensate payphone providers for toll-free and dial around calls.*

*Here's the breakdown:*

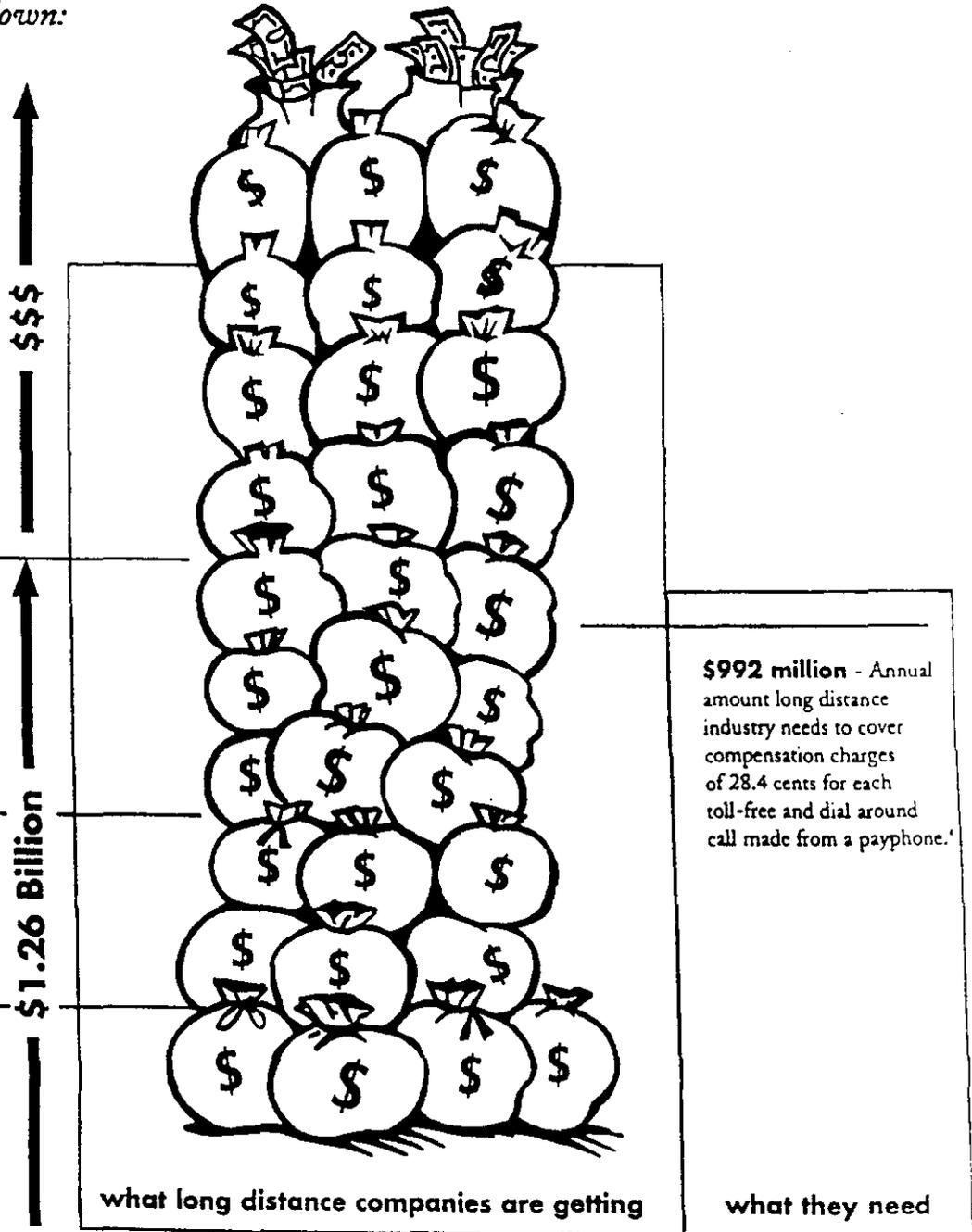
**\$\$\$** - In 1997, AT&T, MCI, Sprint and other long distance companies began imposing millions of dollars in surcharges -- up to 30 cents per call -- on all dial around and toll-free calls made from payphones. These surcharges alone will recover any amounts paid to payphone providers.

**\$\$\$** - Amount gained by MCI, Sprint and some other long distance companies from rate increases attributed to payphone compensation.

**\$641.6 million** - Amount gained by AT&T alone in 1997 from rate increases on toll-free, business long distance and credit-card calls. AT&T imposed the hikes explicitly to compensate payphone providers.<sup>1</sup>

**\$371.5 million** - Amount saved by long distance companies in 1997 in commission payments to location owners and payphone service providers.<sup>2</sup>

**\$250 million** - Annual amount saved by long distance companies from elimination of interstate subsidies for payphone services provided by local phone companies.<sup>3</sup>



**\$992 million** - Annual amount long distance industry needs to cover compensation charges of 28.4 cents for each toll-free and dial around call made from a payphone.<sup>4</sup>

**Sources:**

- <sup>1</sup> Frost & Sullivan. Total amount is for AT&T rate hikes in February and May and does not include rate increases imposed by MCI, Sprint and other long distance carriers in 1997. On an annualized basis, the AT&T increases would exceed \$900 million.
- <sup>2</sup> Based on public data and data submitted by payphone providers and independently verified and validated by Frost & Sullivan
- <sup>3</sup> Federal Communications Commission
- <sup>4</sup> Frost & Sullivan analysis based on FCC data

- Payphone
- Communication
- Alliance

## THE TOLL-FREE TRUTH

### The Situation

- ➔ Section 276 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 requires that payphone service providers (PSPs) be *"fairly compensated for each and every completed... call"* made from a payphone. This provision ended the free ride that long distance companies enjoyed, paying little or nothing for millions of calls made from payphones.
- ➔ These calls fall into two categories: (1) "access code," or "dial around," calls that give the caller the ability to choose a particular long distance service (these include, for example, 10XXX calls such as "10321," as well as 1-800-COLLECT and 1-800-CALLATT); or (2) "subscriber-800," or "toll-free," calls that permit a caller to reach a toll-free number obtained from a long distance company ("800" or "888").
- ➔ In April of 1997, the local telephone companies reduced their federal access charges to long distance carriers (the fees long distance companies pay to originate and/or terminate long distance calls on local telephone networks) by more than \$250 million per year, specifically to reflect the reduction in costs from the elimination of payphone subsidies as directed by Congress in Section 276 of the Act.
- ➔ In October of 1997, the FCC established a charge of 28.4 cents per call for dial around and toll-free calls made from payphones. *Long distance companies, not end users, are responsible for paying the PSPs this charge.*
- ➔ The FCC set the per-call charge for these calls based on the prevailing deregulated rate for a local call made from a payphone (local coin call), less the costs the FCC identified as avoided when a caller places a dial around or toll-free call from a payphone.

## THE FACTS

- ✓ Despite some recent reports to the contrary, payphone users are not charged at the payphone for toll-free and dial around calls.
- ✓ *In a recent consumer information bulletin, the Commission said, "Long distance companies have significant leeway on how to compensate PSPs. The FCC left it to each long distance company to determine how it will recover the cost of compensating PSPs."*
- ✓ The truth is that some long distance companies have used the FCC's payphone proceeding as an excuse to overcharge their customers.
- ✓ The total benefit accrued by long distance companies from rate increases, access charge and commission savings reductions is more than enough to cover payphone compensation.
  - ⇒ Over the last year, long distance companies have imposed several across-the-board increases in their toll-free rates, each time asserting that the increase was for the explicit purpose of covering PSP compensation for toll-free and dial around calls from payphones.
  - ⇒ Long distance companies have pocketed more than \$250 million a year in recurring savings, specifically due to elimination of payphone subsidies.
  - ⇒ Long distance companies have saved tens of millions of dollars in commissions to PSPs and payphone location owners as a result of the massive shift from 0+ calls to dial around calls made possible by changes in federal law in 1992, the Telephone Operator Service Improvement Act ("TOCSIA"). For example, AT&T paid commissions of up to 95 cents per call for each 0+ call received from a payphone. By shifting 0+ calls to the heavily advertised "1-800-CALL ATT," AT&T used the technological loophole to reap huge savings and profit.
- ✓ The new per-call charge that long distance companies imposed last fall (AT&T - 28 cents; MCI and Sprint - 30 cents) on their toll-free and credit card subscribers is entirely unjustified since these companies have already more than recovered the cost of the FCC's payphone decision. These new, additional per-call charges are creating a windfall for long distance companies and a backlash from toll-free subscribers and consumers against a proper and fair decision by the FCC.



■ ■ ■ Payphone  
■ ■ ■ Communication  
■ ■ ■ Alliance

## **BRIEF BACKGROUND**

### **General**

On February 8, 1996, the President signed into law the Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("Act"). Passage of the Act was critical to the future success and growth of the U.S. payphone industry. For decades, government regulation kept the price of a local payphone call artificially low.

Section 276 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was designed to level the playing field in the payphone industry to promote competition among all payphone service providers (PSPs), telephone companies and independents, and the widespread deployment of payphone services.<sup>1</sup> It requires that all PSPs be "*fairly compensated for each and every completed... call*" made from their payphones, and it gives the FCC the responsibility of ensuring that this requirement is met. This compensation requirement is particularly important since as much as one-half to two-thirds of long distance calls from payphones have shifted to dial around and toll-free calls.<sup>2</sup> Section 276 also directs the FCC to ensure that all payphone subsidies are eliminated.

### **FCC's First Set of Rules** ***Per-Call Compensation Set at 35 Cents***

On September 20, 1996, the FCC adopted its first set of rules implementing Section 276 of the Act. It deregulated local coin rates in all 50 states, effective October 7, 1997, and it directed the local telephone

---

<sup>1</sup> There are about 2 million payphones in the United States.

Approximately 80 percent are owned by local telephone companies or their affiliates. Independent payphone companies own the rest.

<sup>2</sup> "Access code," or "dial around" calls give the caller the ability to choose a particular long distance service (these include, for example, 10XXX, such as "10321," as well as 1-800-COLLECT and 1-800-CALLATT). Subscriber-800," or "toll-free," calls permit a caller to reach a toll-free number obtained from a long distance company ("800" or "888").

companies to eliminate payphone subsidies by April 15, 1997. For the first period - November 1996 to October 1997 - the FCC required that long distance companies with more than \$100 million in revenues pay each PSP a flat rate per phone, apportioned among long distance companies by market share. In the second 12-month period (which has already begun), when per-call tracking is widely available, the FCC initially set a compensation rate of 35 cents per call, the prevailing rate for local coin calls in states where the rate for such calls is not regulated. The FCC reasoned that a long distance company should ultimately negotiate with PSPs for a per-call compensation rate.

### **FCC's Second Set of Rules**

#### ***Per-Call Compensation Reduced to 28.4 Cents***

On July 1, 1997, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit remanded the payphone compensation rate to the FCC for further consideration. On October 9, 1997, the FCC adopted a second set of rules, reducing the per-call compensation from 35 cents per call to 28.4 cents, over the objections of the PSPs. The FCC again concluded that "a market-based rate best responds to the competitive marketplace for payphones consistent with the deregulatory scheme...pursuant to Section 276, and will also effectively advance the statutory goals of encouraging competition and promoting the deployment of payphones."

### **Long Distance Companies Raise Rates**

#### ***Using the FCC Rules as an Excuse to Overcharge Customers***

Several long distance companies have asked the FCC to reconsider its October 9 decision. A decision from the FCC is anticipated by the spring of 1998.

These long distance companies are challenging the FCC rules despite the significant reduction in the per-call rate from 35 cents to 28.4 cents (nearly 20 percent). In the meantime, the long distance companies have repeatedly raised their toll-free rates purportedly to cover payphone compensation, added per-call surcharges (to cover the same payphone compensation) and pocketed in excess of \$250 million in savings from the elimination of payphone subsidies.

*AT&T, for example, raised its 800 rates at least three times in 1997 to pay for the new compensation rate.*

- On February 27, AT&T raised rates for all toll-free calls by 3 percent and imposed a charge of 15 cents per call for business credit card calls.
- On May 1, AT&T raised its interstate toll-free rates by 7 percent and business international and interstate outbound services by 2 percent.
- On June 1, AT&T added another 35-cent per-call charge for operator handled calls, including calling card calls "to offset payments to payphone owners." This charge was reduced to 28 cents only after the FCC reduced the per-call charge in October 1997. The new 28 cent per call surcharge was expanded to include toll free calls.

*MCI and Sprint have repeatedly raised their rates as well.*

- *MCI raised its 800 rates twice in 1997, each time by more than three percent.*
- *Sprint also raised its 800 rates twice, by two percent in November 1996, and again by about five percent in 1997.*
- *MCI and Sprint also announced last year that they will impose \$0.30 per call surcharge for payphone use.*

Even though AT&T, MCI and Sprint announced per-call rate hikes to cover the 28.4 cents, none have rolled back the substantial across-the-board rate increases they made earlier, specifically to cover payphone compensation.

Finally, since April 15, 1997 the long distance companies have also pocketed in excess of \$250 million as a result of the elimination of payphone subsidies historically included in local telephone company access charges.<sup>3</sup> None of these savings have been passed on to consumers or to 800 service customers.

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<sup>3</sup> Access charges are the charges long distance companies pay to local telephone companies for the origination and termination of long distance calls on the local telephone network.



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Mountain View, California 94043  
Tel: 415.961.9000  
Fax: 415.961.5042

To: Jim Hawkins, Co-Chair of the Payphone Communications Alliance  
Vince Sandusky, Co-Chair of the Payphone Communications Alliance  
From: Brian Cotton  
Date: February 26, 1998  
Subject: Long-distance company commission savings

Dear Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Sandusky:

Please find attached a spreadsheet model depicting the long-distance companies' savings in commissions to Payphone Service Providers (PSPs) due to the shift from 0+ dialing to dial-around calling from payphones since 1993. This model assumes that the average number of 0+ calls from a payphone would have remained constant had the 1990 law which mandated equal access from payphones, not passed. Our conclusion is that the long-distance companies, industry-wide, have saved a minimum of \$371.5 million in commission payments in 1997 alone from paying less in commissions to PSPs, due to a shift from 0+ to dial-around calls from payphones.

The estimate of the number of payphones installed in the U.S. market (1993-1997) is based on Local Exchange Carrier (LEC) reports to the Federal Communications Commission (1,694,000 in 1997), and an estimate of the number of independent payphones and payphones from LECs not required to be reported to the FCC (529,000 payphones in 1997). Note that our results for the industry-wide commission savings are conservative, since we used a conservative estimate of the number of payphones from independent and non-reporting LECs.

To explain this model in more detail, we first estimated the average number of 0+ calls made from a payphone in a month in a given year (C1), and multiplied it by the average commission paid for each 0+ call (M). We then multiplied this monthly figure by 12 months, and multiplied this result by the estimated number of payphones installed in the U.S. market in a given year (Q) to arrive at the total payphone commission paid by the long-distance companies (TC1).

Next, we assumed that the 1990 law had not been enacted. We conservatively estimated that the average number of 0+ calls from payphones remained constant at 51.02 for the analysis period (C2), and calculated the total payphone commission paid by the long-distance companies had the 1990 law not passed (TC2).

Finally, to calculate the amount of payphone commissions that the long-distance companies saved each year since the 1990 law was enacted (Savings), we subtracted the actual commission payments (TC1) from the baseline commissions (TC2). Thus in 1997 alone, the long-distance companies saved \$371.5 million in payphone commissions.

To extrapolate from these figures, if the number of payphones installed continues to grow past 1997, the long-distance companies' savings should grow significantly.

Please do not hesitate to call me on my direct line (650-237-4315) if you have any questions about this material.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Cotton", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Cotton

## Long Distance Company Commission Savings (since 1993)

Y	C1	C2	M	Months	Q	TC1	TC2	Savings
1997	16.20	51.02	\$0.40	12	2,223,000	\$172,860,480	\$544,403,808	\$371,543,328
1996	19.13	51.02	\$0.40	12	2,111,000	\$193,840,464	\$516,975,456	\$323,134,992
1995	25.21	51.02	\$0.40	12	2,056,000	\$248,792,448	\$503,506,176	\$254,713,728
1994	38.75	51.02	\$0.40	12	2,091,000	\$388,926,000	\$512,077,536	\$123,151,536
1993	51.02	51.02	\$0.40	12	2,032,000	\$497,628,672	\$497,628,672	\$0
<b>Key</b>								
Y = Year								
C1 = Average number of 0 + Calls made from Payphones each month								
C2 = Estimated average number of 0+ calls, if 1992 law had not passed								
M = Average Commission PIC pays to PSP for each 0 + Call, based on FCC imposed compensation of \$0.40 per call								
Months = # of Months in a Year								
Q = Number of Payphones installed in the U.S. in the given year								
TC1 = Total yearly Commissions PIC pays PSP for 0 + Calls								
TC2 = Total yearly commissions paid if 1992 law had not passed								
Savings = savings in compensation between baseline (TC2) and actual commissions (TC1)								



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To: Jim Hawkins, Co-Chair of the Payphone Communications Alliance  
Vince Sandusky, Co-Chair of the Payphone Communications Alliance  
From: Brian Cotton  
Date: February 26, 1998  
Subject: Impact of AT&T rate increases for payphone compensation

Dear Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Sandusky:

This memo is intended to present our analyses of the quantitative impact on AT&T of their rate increases to cover payphone compensation for dial-around and toll free calls. Our conclusion is that the rate increases allowed AT&T to gain approximately \$641.6 million in 1997. As you will see from this document, the rate increases were in effect for only part of the year in 1997, and whereas they were relatively significant, the figures for 1998 are likely to be even higher.

The methods by which we performed these analyses involved taking the public statements made by AT&T on January 21, 1998 about their rate increases, estimating AT&T's share of that market, and multiplying them to arrive at AT&T's annual expected revenue from that market prior to any of the announced rate increases. Next, we multiplied the rate increase by the revenue to arrive at an estimate of the annual added revenues from the rate increases. We then divided this annualized figure by 12 months to arrive at an average monthly figure for these added revenues, and then multiplied this monthly figure by the number of months in 1997 which were subject to the rate increases. We then added this figure to the expected revenue figure prior to the rate increases to arrive at the total 1997 revenue. The final calculation involved subtracting the pre-rate increase revenue from the total post-rate increase revenue to give us the quantitative impact of the rate increases on each service.

I will explain the impact of each rate increase, as generated by our analyses, below.

The first analysis, entitled "Total Toll Free Market," quantifies the gain AT&T would realize in 1997 from a 3 percent increase in toll free rates to cover its payphone liability, effective February 27, 1997. This figure, highlighted in the last column of the Total Toll Free section, shows that AT&T would gain \$160.6 million from the rate increase in March through December 1997. The column before this shows the total AT&T revenues in 1997 for toll free including both pre- and post-increase revenues.

The second analysis, entitled "Business Calling Cards," quantifies the gain AT&T would realize in 1997 from a \$0.15 per call increase in business calling card rates to cover its payphone liability, effective February 27, 1997. This figure, highlighted in the last column of the Business Card section, shows that AT&T would gain \$46.7 million from the rate increase in March through December 1997. The column before this shows the total AT&T revenues in 1997 for business calling card calls including both pre- and post-increase revenues.

The third analysis, entitled "Business International," quantifies the gain AT&T would realize in 1997 from a 2 percent increase in business international rates to cover its payphone liability, effective May 1, 1997. This figure, highlighted in the last column of the Business International section, shows that AT&T would gain \$57.0 million from the rate increase in May through December 1997. The column before this shows the total AT&T revenues in 1997 for business international including both pre- and post-increase revenues.

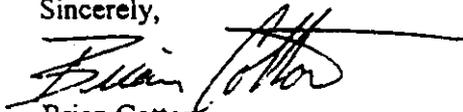
The fourth analysis, entitled "Inbound Interstate Toll Free," quantifies the gain AT&T would realize in 1997 from a 7 percent increase in interstate toll free rates to cover its payphone liability, effective May 1, 1997. This figure, highlighted in the last column of the Inbound Interstate Toll Free section, shows that AT&T would gain \$239.8 million from the rate increase in May through December 1997. The column before this shows the total AT&T revenues in 1997 for inbound interstate toll free including both pre- and post-increase revenues.

The final analysis, entitled "U.S. Business Interstate Outbound Long Distance Service," quantifies the gain AT&T would realize in 1997 from a 2 percent increase in toll free rates to cover its payphone liability, effective May 1, 1997. This figure, highlighted in the last column of the U.S. Business Interstate Outbound Long Distance Service section, shows that AT&T would gain \$137.5 million from the rate increase in March through December 1997. The column before this shows the total AT&T revenues in 1997 for business interstate outbound long distance including both pre- and post-increase revenues.

Please note that we found AT&T's statements to be unclear for the final analysis, in that one could read the statement "...prices for business international and interstate outbound services by 2 percent (point #5 of the release)," in two ways. The increases could be construed to apply to all interstate outbound services (business plus residential), or it could be read to apply to only business outbound interstate services. We chose a conservative approach by focusing the analysis on only the business outbound interstate interpretation. Including the residential segment with this analysis would increase AT&T's gains significantly.

Please do not hesitate to call me on my direct line (650-237-4315) if you have any questions about this material.

Sincerely,



Brian Cotton

## Impact of ATT rate increases for payphone compensation (1997)

Total Toll Free Market (1)		AT&T Share	AT&T revenue	Rate increase	added revenues	Ave. monthly revenues	Total AT&T	1997 Gains
Year	Market Size	(est)		(%)		(post increase)	toll free revenues	
1997	\$ 12,350,000,000	0.52	\$ 6,422,000,000	0.03	\$ 192,660,000	\$ 18,055,000	\$ 6,582,550,000	\$ 160,550,000
Business Calling Cards (2)		AT&T Share	AT&T business	Rate increase	ave. monthly revenues	total revenue increase	Total market revenues	AT&T business card
Year	Market Size (calls)	(est)	calling card calls	(per call)	(due to increase)	(after rate increase)		revenues (post-
1997	868,500,000	0.43	373,455,000	\$ 0.15	\$ 4,668,188	\$ 46,681,875	\$ 5,060,000,000	\$ 2,175,800,000
							Total AT&T business	1997 Gains
							calling card revenues	\$ 46,681,875
							\$ 2,222,481,875	
Business International (3)		AT&T Share	AT&T revenue	Rate increase	added revenues	Ave. monthly revenue	Total AT&T business	1997 Gains
Year	Market Size	(est)		(%)		increase	international revenues	
1997	\$ 8,730,000,000.00	0.49	\$ 4,277,700,000	0.02	\$ 85,554,000	\$ 7,129,500	\$ 4,334,736,000	\$ 57,036,000
Inbound interstate toll-free (4)		AT&T Share	AT&T revenue	Rate increase	revenue increase	Ave monthly increase	Total AT&T inbound	1997 Gains
Year	Market Size	(est)		(%)			interstate	
1997	\$ 9,880,000,000	0.52	\$ 5,137,600,000	0.07	\$ 359,632,000	\$ 29,969,333	\$ 5,377,354,667	\$ 239,754,667
U.S. Business Interstate Outbound Long Distance Services (5)		AT&T Share	AT&T revenue	Rate increase	AT&T rev increase	Ave monthly increase	Total business interstate	1997 Gains
Year	Market Size	(est)		(%)			outbound revenues	
1997	\$ 23,178,720,000	0.445	\$ 10,314,530,400	0.02	\$ 206,290,608	\$ 17,190,884	\$ 10,452,057,472	\$ 137,527,072

Notes  
 (1) The AT&T rate increase was announced on 27 Feb 97, 10 months are assumed to be affected.

(2) The AT&T rate increase was announced on 27 Feb 97

Market sizing: A business card call is equivalent to one 5 minute call

(3) Business international rates increases effective 1 May 97

(4) Inbound interstate toll free revenues are assumed to be 80 percent of the total toll free market revenues in 1997  
 Increases effective 1 May 97

(5) Rate increases effective 1 May 97  
 Business interstate outbound long distance services account for approximately 43% of total market  
 AT&T's market share for business long distance services is less than residential share

**Total AT&T Gains in 1997**  
**\$ 641,549,614**

# EXHIBIT 3

## DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &amp; OSHINSKY LLP

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MAR 17 1998

March 16, 1998

VIA COURIERFEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

EX PARTE  
PRESENTATIONRe: CC Docket No. 96-128

Dear Ms. Salas:

On March 13, 1998, the undersigned counsel and co-counsel of this law firm, on behalf of the American Public Communications Council, Inc. ("APCC"), met with Commissioner Gloria Tristani, Paul Gallant, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Tristani, and Greg Lipscomb and Jennifer Myers of the of the Common Carrier Bureau's Enforcement Division.

During the meeting, we presented an historical overview of payphone regulation to date. Our discussions were limited to matters related to payphone regulation from an historical perspective, and the information contained in the presentation materials enclosed herewith.

If you desire any further information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,



Albert H. Kramer

AHK/rw

Enclosure

cc: Gloria Tristani  
Paul Gallant  
Greg Lipscomb  
Jennifer Myers

# **A History of Payphone Compensation**

**Presented by  
the American Public  
Communications Council**

**Annual Cost of Payphone Compensation for Dial-Around Calls**

- o Using the Commission's conservative, somewhat out-of-date average of 131 dial-around calls per payphone per month multiplied by 28.4¢ per call, yields \$37.20 per payphone per month
- o \$37.20 multiplied by the 12 months of the year is \$446.45
- o For the approximately 2.223 million payphones nationwide, annual compensation is approximately \$992 million ( $\$446.45 \times 2,223,000$  payphones)
- o Using 152 dial-around calls per payphone per month, as proposed by APCC, the total cost of annual compensation would be approximately \$1.15 billion

*Corresponds with Slides 36 - 37*