

I am tired of cell phone providers locking me into long-term contracts with costly early termination fees. I urge you to give consumers a more powerful marketplace and limit these exorbitant early termination fees -- but not at the expense of my legal right to sue wireless companies for potentially illegal behavior.

Wireless companies say they have to charge these fees to recover "subsidies" they give consumers for free phones. But I'm skeptical that consumers are getting much or anything for free in the end, especially when these penalties range from \$175 to \$250.

It's bad enough that I can't take my phone with me when I change cell phone companies. Why do I have to pay a penalty when I want to leave my provider for bad service? That just locks me in to paying for something I don't want.

Please rein in these excessive early termination fees so I can fully utilize the power of the marketplace to get the cell phone service I want. But I urge you to not give away consumers' rights to take wireless companies to court for potentially illegal fees. Cell phone companies shouldn't get special legal treatment just for giving consumers a fair shake.

If they choose to give free phones, that is their decision. Any so-called losses that result should not be passed on to the consumer. This is clearly unethical and should be illegal. Where are the consumers' rights. We are already paying exorbitant prices to have a cell phone, whether we use the minutes or not. How can companies in addition be allowed to charge us for termination of a contract. This boils down to making us pay for services not received. This is outrageous.

Thank you for leveling the playing field for cell phone customers. This is long overdue.

Sincerely,
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