

Federal Communications Commission  
 Wireline Competition Bureau  
 Competition Policy Division  
 Washington, DC, 20554

Ref. # 63.71  
 May 29, 2010

Unfair Impact to Stopping the Using Pre-Paid Calling Cards

Please do not allow phone companies to discontinue service to those of us holding pre-paid phone cards. This is unfair to those of us on a fixed income. We pay the phone company an average of \$15.00 a month just to have the phone in our house, not including all of the added taxes –

- Federal Excise
- IN USF Surcharge
- State Tax
- Utility Receipts Surcharge
- Telecommunications Relay Services
- Federal Relay Services Fee, etc.

We often need to make phone calls to neighboring counties regarding medical schedules and other inquiries. Just this month, I had to make more ten calls to a heart clinic in the next county regarding a scheduled angiogram. The calling cards are a means of saving money for those of us on fixed incomes. After all, we paid for these phone cards, many of which we bought from phone companies.

Our monthly phone bills were running \$60.00 to \$70.00 per month. By using the calling cards, our phone bill dropped to an average of \$30.00 per month. Forcing customers to use the phone companies long distance service at a much higher rate, from an average of 5 cents a minute to at least 12 cents a minute, is neither fair nor reasonable. We feel that an exception should be made for those of us with medical issues.

A response would be appreciated.



D. Davis  
 3445 E 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
 Lake Station, IN 46405

cc: Aty. Rice

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 List A B C D E

D. DAVIS  
3445 E. 22ND AVENUE  
LAKE STATION, IN

46105  
Received & Inspected  
JUN 07 2010  
FCC Mail Room

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMM.  
WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU  
COMPETITION POLICY DIVISION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20554

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