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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**Chairman Genachowski**

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

FAX: 1-866-418-0232

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

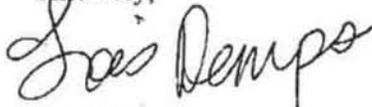
Our communities need federal oversight of and rate caps on interstate prison phone services. I am writing to ask that you end kickbacks and price gouging by the U.S. prison telephone industry. I believe that families and communities should come before profiteering and kickbacks.

Contracts for prison phone services should be bid on the basis of who can provide the lowest price to the consumer, not which company provides the highest commission to state agencies. In practice, however, the latter is the rule while the former is the exception.

Our communities are disadvantaged when prisoners are unable to maintain family ties that will help them succeed post-release, and I ask you to act now on this important issue. There are over 2.3 million people behind bars in the United States, and they all have families. Existing prison phone contracts result in exorbitant phone rates and extortionate price gouging of those families.

We request that the FCC move to approve the Wright petition, CC Docket No. 96-128, which has been pending before the FCC for 8 years. How much longer must prisoners' families continue to wait, and be exploited by greedy phone companies and the state agencies they contract with, before the FCC takes decisive action?

Sincerely,



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