

RE: WC Docket # 12-375

Dear Commissioners,

Of the many issues under your consideration, I am writing about the cost of prison phone calls. Every year, families spend more than they can afford to remain in contact with incarcerated loved ones. The costs are unfair and are inflicted on the innocent. Studies show that offenders who stay in touch with their families have a greater chance of succeeding when they are released. As you may or may not know, the cost of re-incarceration in the United States is very high. On average, approximately 50% of those released from prison return within three years. With 1 in 39 adults experiencing some level of incarceration each year, correctional systems need all the help they can get. Families are one of the best resources at their disposal because of the long-term investment in the offender. Staying in touch is already hard for them. With the new rule that is now before you, these families will have an easier time lending much needed support. Thank you for considering this rule and it is my hope that you will be able to put it into effect.

Sincerely,

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