

DEBBIE STABENOW
MICHIGAN

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
BUDGET
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FINANCE

United States Senate

133 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2204

January 30, 2014

Greg Guice
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, Sw, Room 8-c445
Washington, DC 20554

ACCEPTED/FILED

MAY 29 2014

*WCB
Consumer
Inmate Tel
14-132*

Dear Greg,

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I am writing on behalf of Sheriff Daniel Bean, who contacted me regarding the negative impact that the FCC's Order on Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services will have on the Antrim County Sheriff's Office.

I have included correspondence or background information I received about this issue. I would appreciate your review and response to these questions or concerns.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Brandon Fewins in my Northern Michigan Office at 231-929-1031. You can respond by emailing Services@Stabenow.Senate.gov. If you are not able to email your response, you may fax it to 231-929-1250 or send by postal mail to 3335 S. Airport Road West, Suite 6B, Traverse City, MI 49684.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

221 W. LAKE LANSING ROAD
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EAST LANSING, MI 48823
(517) 203-1760

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ANTRIM COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Daniel S. Bean
Sheriff

December 02, 2013

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC. 20510

P.O. Box 568 • 107 Grove St. • Bellaire, MI 49615
Office (231) 533-8627, ext #1 • **Fax** (231) 533-5803
Emergency 911

Dean A. Pratt
Undersheriff

RECEIVED
JAN 02 2014

BT: 4.20089660

Dear Senator Stabenow:

I am writing to inform you about an *Order* issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that will adversely impact my office and the performance of my duties as Sheriff of Antrim County, and to seek your help in correcting this situation. Specifically, in the FCC's *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services (ICS)* (WC Docket No. 12-375), issued on September 26, 2013, the FCC has reduced the rate that can be charged for interstate inmate calling services in both prisons and jails by establishing arbitrary rules that fail to take into account the unique challenges inherent in providing telephone privileges to inmates.

The FCC *Order* establishes interstate inmate calling service (ICS) rate caps that fail to take into account the costs incurred by jails in providing inmate calling services. Inmate telephone systems are built to reflect the unique needs of each correctional facility and provide a variety of important security components. These security components come at a cost to the facility. Moreover, the small size of most jails, coupled with high turnover rates, means that jails must charge more per minute than larger facilities in order to recover the costs of providing ICS. The *Order* disregards these realities! It imposes unrealistically low rate caps that limit the ability of ICS providers to recover costs of administering services in smaller, higher cost facilities. As a result of the FCC's "one-size-fits-all" approach to ICS, many jails may be forced to severely limit or altogether eliminate inmate telephone privileges.

The National Sheriffs' Association will soon be submitting a filing at the FCC to try to protect the ability of Sheriffs to continue to provide inmate calling services and to recover the costs of doing so. I will be contacting you again soon to get your support for this effort.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Daniel S. Bean

Our staff is dedicated to making Antrim County a safe place in which to live, work, play and raise our families!