JEFF MILLER 1st District, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

1453

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 336 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–4136

> DISTRICT OFFICES: 4300 BAYOU BOULEVARD SUITE 13 PENSACOLA, FL 32503 (850) 479–1183

348 S.W. MIHACLE STRIP PARKWAY SUITE 24 FORT WALTON BEACH, FL 32548 (850) 664–1266 http://jeffmiller.house.gov Toll Free: 1–866–367–1814

January 9, 2014

Detaelved & Inspected

The Honorable Tom Wheeler Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street Southwest Washington, D.C. 20554

JAN 152014 FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am writing to express my concern with the FCC's recently issued order on *Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services*.

While telephone communication is an important tool that can help inmates maintain connections with their families while incarcerated, I have heard from multiple law enforcement officials in my district concerned that the overarching nature of this new rule does not take into account the challenges faced by jails and smaller corrections facilities. As a result of rate changes, many of these facilities may be forced to significantly reduce, or even terminate, interstate inmate calling services.

I also understand that the FCC is now looking at rates for intrastate inmate calling services. Potential changes to intrastate calling services would have an even greater impact on the facilities in my district and across the country and may have the unintended consequence of making it more difficult for inmates to access telephone services. I respectfully ask that you take these considerations into account and not extend new rules for intrastate calls.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or my staff at 202-225-4136.

ember of Congress JM/so