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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4605

October 9, 2014

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20536

Received & Inspected

OCT 28 2014

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

It has come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is considering changes to *FCC13-113 Rates for Interstate Inmate Calling Services* to include intrastate calls. I have heard numerous concerns regarding the impact of this change from law enforcement personnel in Virginia's Fifth District.

My constituents have noted that the FCC may place caps on call rates for intrastate calls, essentially eliminating the commissions paid to the jails by inmate telephone service providers. Reports indicate that in Virginia, approximately \$13.5 million in revenue comes from phone commissions annually. While I understand your concerns regarding the appropriate setting of these rates, it should be noted that this money is used to implement and support the inmates' phone system program as well as to provide programming and classes to inmates. My constituents note that changes that result in cuts to these programs will end up harming those it is intending to help. I am concerned that if local and regional jail authorities cannot replace these funds from their localities, law enforcement as well as inmates will suffer, and many important programs will be cut due to ongoing budget constraints. I ask that you give my constituents' concerns every consideration as you review these rules.

Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact my office if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Hurt