

Name: Vernon Vassell

Title:

Organization or Agency:

Topic: Meeting Date Not Listed

NA

Testimony:

To: Correction Advisory Committee,

We offenders are allowed to have 90 minutes of Free Calls per day. The Law did not state specifically how the 90 minutes were to be used. The Department of Correction (D.O.C.) however decided to give us 6 phone calls for 15 minutes each to satisfy the 90 minutes of Free call Law.

however more often than not calls are dropped due to bad connection,system failure or due to a prison incident. when its a prison incident,sometimes the D.O.C. staff cuts the phones off in the middle of your call without warning or reimbursement and you lose out on a 15 minute call. which lessens the 90 minutes of required Free phone calls. I'm asking if this issue can be rectified.

Solution: Instead of giving us offenders 6 separate 15 minute Free calls to satisfy the 90 minute Free Call Law. Offenders should be given 90 minutes of "Free phone time credit". This change will guarantee every offender get the 90 minutes of phone time the law intended. Now If a call is dropped,there's a System error or a prison incident. We will no longer lose out on the 90 minutes.

Example: If I used 5 of the 90 minutes of my Free call time and the phone call disconnects. When it reconnects I will have 85 minutes remaining. Under the current 6 separate 15 minute per call system, I would of loss 15 minutes instead of just the 5 minutes I actually used.

This doesn't cause anymore hardship on the Department of Correction. The 90 minutes are the same. just being used in a different more reliable way. So I hope there is a way to implement this type of System. Thanks!

Sincerely Yours
Vernon Vassell #237710