

A07231 Summary:

BILL NO A07231C
SAME AS Same as S 5299-C
SPONSOR Aubry
COSPNSR Espaillat, Millman, Boyland, Benjamin, Rivera P, Diaz R, Meng, Seddio
Ortiz, Fields, Nolan, Zebrowski, Peoples, Norman
MLTSPNSR Arroyo, Cohen A, Farrell, Gottfried, Heastie, Lentol, Markey, McEneny
McLaughlin

Add S622, Cor L

Provides inmates with telephone services utilizing a debit card system and reasonable collect call system rates.

A07231 Actions:

BILL NO A07231C
04/11/2005 referred to correction
04/19/2005 reported referred to ways and means
06/07/2005 reported referred to rules
06/08/2005 amend and recommit to rules 7231a
06/16/2005 reported
06/16/2005 rules report cal.458
06/16/2005 ordered to third reading rules cal.458
06/23/2005 passed assembly
06/23/2005 delivered to senate
06/23/2005 REFERRED TO RULES
01/04/2006 DIED IN SENATE
01/04/2006 RETURNED TO ASSEMBLY
01/04/2006 committed to rules
01/18/2006 amend and recommit to rules 7231b
02/07/2006 amend and recommit to rules 7231c

A07231 Votes:

BILL: A07231A DATE: 06/23/2005 MOTION:

YEA/NAY: 101/043

Abbate	Y	Carrozz	Y	Fields	Y	John	Y	Meng	Y	Pretlow	Y	Sweeney	Y
Alfano	Y	Casale	NO	Finch	NO	Karben	NO	Miller	NO	Quinn	NO	Tedisco	NO
Arroyo	Y	Christe	Y	Fitzpat	NO	Kirwan	NO	Millman	Y	Rabbitt	NO	Thiele	Y
Auberti	NO	Clark	Y	Galef	Y	Kolb	NO	Mirones	NO	Raia	NO	Titus	Y
Aubry	Y	Cohen	Y	Gantt	Y	Koon	NO	Morelle	Y	Ramos	Y	Tokasz	Y
Bacalle	NO	Colton	Y	Gianari	Y	Lafayet	Y	Mosiell	NO	Reilich	NO	Tonko	Y
Barclay	NO	Conte	NO	Glick	Y	Latimer	Y	Nesbitt	NO	Reilly	Y	Towns	Y
Barra	NO	Cook	Y	Gordon	Y	Lavelle	Y	Nolan	Y	Rive J	Y	Townsen	NO
Barraga	NO	Crouch	NO	Gottfri	Y	Lavine	Y	Norman	Y	Rive N	Y	Walker	NO
Benedet	Y	Cusick	NO	Grannis	Y	Lentol	Y	Oaks	NO	Rive PM	Y	Weinste	Y
Benjami	Y	Cymbrow	Y	Green	Y	Lifton	Y	O`Conne	Y	Robinso	Y	Weisenb	Y
Bing	Y	DelMont	Y	Greene	Y	Lopez	ER	O`Donne	Y	Saladin	Y	Weprin	Y
Boyland	Y	Destito	ER	Gunther	Y	Lupardo	Y	O`Mara	NO	Sanders	Y	Wirth	NO
Bradley	Y	Diaz LM	Y	Hayes	NO	Magee	Y	Ortiz	Y	Sayward	NO	Wright	Y
Brennan	Y	Diaz R	Y	Heastie	Y	Magnare	Y	Ortloff	NO	Scarbor	Y	Zebrows	Y
Brodsky	Y	DiNapol	Y	Hevesi	Y	Manning	NO	Parment	NO	Schimmi	Y	Mr Spkr	Y
Brown	NO	Dinowit	Y	Hikind	Y	Markey	Y	Paulin	Y	Schroed	Y		
Burling	NO	Eddingt	Y	Hooker	ER	Mayerso	ER	Peoples	Y	Scozzaf	NO		
Butler	NO	Englebr	Y	Hooper	Y	McDonal	NO	Peralta	Y	Seddio	Y		
Cahill	Y	Errigo	NO	Hoyt	Y	McDonou	Y	Perry	Y	Seminer	Y		
Calhoun	NO	Espail	Y	Ignizio	NO	McEneny	Y	Pheffer	Y	Stephen	NO		
Canestr	Y	Farrell	Y	Jacobs	Y	McLaugh	Y	Powell	Y	Stringe	Y		

A07231 Memo:

BILL NUMBER: A7231C

TITLE OF BILL : An act to amend the correction law, in relation to inmate telephone services

PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF BILL : Enactment of this bill would provide inmates and any individual contacting such persons with the best value on telephone rates.

SUMMARY OF SPECIFIC PROVISIONS : This bill amends correction law to provide the lowest cost of telephone service to those people using such service. When determining "best value" as stated in state procurement requirements, cost to user shall be emphasized. The department shall provide for either a "debit" or "collect call" system, or a combination of the choices, for telephone service. The department shall not receive revenue in excess of what it reasonably costs to provide such telephone services. The department may establish rules and regulations or departmental procedures to ensure an inmate phone call system protects the security and privacy of correctional facility staff and receivers of inmate phone calls.

JUSTIFICATION : The excessive costs of collect phone calls made from inmates to their families, friends and loved ones has been a persistent problem since MCI was awarded a contract to operate the Department of Correctional Services` Inmate Call Home Program in 1996. The average person calling a prison can expect to pay 630% more on

their call than if they were to call someone outside the prison system. This is an unconscionable practice. In addition, many correction facilities are in remote locations and phone calls are often the only way that inmates can directly contact family members and loved ones. The family and loved ones of inmates should not be made to suffer such expensive charges just to communicate with one another. This legislation is necessary to moderate billing rates to make inmate telephone services reasonably priced and accessible, yet preserve security and privacy for prison staff and recipients of inmate phone calls.

PRIOR LEGISLATIVE HISTORY : This is new legislation.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS : This bill would result in decreased revenues to Department of Correctional Services which traditionally supported health, family and support services.

EFFECTIVE DATE : This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that section one of this act shall take effect on April 1, 2006, and shall apply to any new or renewal contract for inmate telephone services entered into on or after such date and provided further that any new or renewal contract for inmate telephone services entered prior to April 1, 2006 shall not run past March 31, 2006.