

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 49th Legislature (2004)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2425

By: Kirby

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to prisons and reformatories; enacting the Inmate Phones Act; providing short title; specifying certain standards and service for inmate telephone service; specifying certain security safeguards; providing restrictions and prohibitions on vendors; providing rates for certain inmate calls; requiring approval by the Department of Corrections; requiring revenues to benefit inmates; requiring revenue reports to Department of Central Services; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 627 of Title 57, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Inmate Phones Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 628 of Title 57, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Local and long distance telephone services provided to the Department of Corrections shall contain the following minimum standards and services:

1. Standardized announcement be available on each call to inform the receiver of the call of the connectivity charge and the cost per minute to the receiver of the call;

2. Digital recording and archiving of all inmate telephone calls for a period of not less than two (2) years;

3. Fingerprint, voiceprint, or any biometric identifier of the inmate placing the telephone call and uniquely assigned personal identification number (PIN) which must match with the fingerprint, voiceprint, or any biometric identifier before the call is validated. The PIN will transfer with the inmate to each Department of Corrections facility;

4. An alert triggering when specific inmates place calls and when specific destination numbers are dialed; and

5. Capability for remote monitoring, replay and analysis of all inmate telephone calls.

B. In addition to the other provisions of this section, in order to monitor the volume of inmate telephone usage, the following security safeguards shall be enacted:

1. All calls must be validated before being completed;

2. A networked system must be provided which will allow the Department of Corrections to view and print reports on call details and revenue information; and

3. Continuous online self-diagnostics of the inmate phone system to prevent downtime.

C. Any vendor bidding on providing local and long distance telephone services to the Department of Corrections must currently have inmate telephone experience with three or more other state departments of corrections.

D. Any vendor bidding on providing local and long distance telephone services to the Department of Corrections is strictly prohibited from offering any commissions, cash bonus, signing bonus or gifts of any kind to any state entity and such offerings will cause automatic disqualification in the bidding process.

E. Rates charged for inmate calls will be a standardized, flat, per minute rate with the exception of local calls. Final approval of the rate is to be determined by the Department of Corrections

with the purpose of rates being lower than the dominant carrier rate.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 629 of Title 57, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. All revenue generated from inmate telephones and received by the Department of Corrections shall be for the benefit and welfare of inmates and personnel as determined by the canteen Board of Directors pursuant to Section 537 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

B. All inmate telephone revenues shall be reported monthly to the Department of Central Services and shall include the following items:

1. Institution name;
2. Location of institution;
3. Location of phone in institution and the phone number;
4. Phone number called;
5. Duration of the call;
6. Cost of the call; and
7. Revenue generated daily and totaled monthly for local, intralata, intrastate, interstate, international and prepaid debit calls.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2004.

SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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