

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 50th Legislature (2005)

SENATE BILL 393

By: Eason McIntyre

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to prisons and reformatories; enacting the Family and Friends of Inmates Equitable Phone Charges Act; providing short title; requiring Department of Corrections to negotiate rates; eliminating acceptance of commissions; authorizing implementation of debit calling system; providing for codification; providing for noncodification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

This act may be cited as the "Family and Friends of Inmates Equitable Phone Charges Act".

SECTION 2. 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:

A. The cost of local and long distance telephone service provided to inmates of the Department of Corrections facilities shall be the same rates charged for comparable residential telephone service. The Department of Corrections shall negotiate contracts for local and long distance telephone service on the basis of offering the lowest cost to users.

B. The State of Oklahoma and the Department of Corrections shall not accept commissions or revenues, nor receive any telephone services for their employees at below market rate from the providers of the inmate telephone service.

C. The Department of Corrections shall develop and implement a statewide debit calling system for inmates for local and long

distance calls. Inmates shall be allowed to establish an individual telephone account in which they may deposit funds received from family members and funds earned from inmate labor. Funds deposited in this account shall only be made available to prisoners for the purposes of paying for direct telephone calls to family members.

The Department of Corrections shall not be allowed to transfer funds from individual telephone accounts to any other funds of the inmate or the Department of Corrections.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2005.

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