



August 29, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
Public Comments
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski;



On August 21st a delegation of organizations from the New York area met with Representative Yvette Clarke (Brooklyn) to discuss the high cost of receiving a phone call from a prison, jail or detention center. The visit was held as part of a larger effort called the [Campaign for Prison Phone Justice](#), a national campaign seeking to lower the cost of prison phone calls. Member organizations included: Center for Media Justice, Peoples Production House, Families Rally for Emancipation and Empowerment (FREE) and Pastor Will Seaton.

The delegation petitioned Representative Clarke to send a letter to the FCC in support of the Wright Petition (docket no. 96-128), a measure that would make the cost of long distance phone calls from prisons more affordable. These groups believe the current predatory rates deter regular telephone contact with stable family members and others in the community. Further, they posit the FCC--as the only agency with jurisdiction over long distance rates-- is the correct venue to resolve this problem.

On behalf of these groups we request federal oversight of interstate prison phone call rates. You can help ensure families can stay connected by taking action.

Respectfully submitted,

amalia deloney
Associate Director