

HOUSE BILL NO. 6528

December 17, 2020, Introduced by Reps. Yancey, Whitsett, Lasinski, Gay-Dagnogo, Byrd, Wittenberg, Tyrone Carter, Cambensy, Peterson, Brenda Carter, Kennedy, Cynthia Johnson, Rabhi and Jones and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

A bill to provide for certain telephone services for prisoners and inmates; and to provide for the powers and duties of certain state and local governmental officers and entities.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. As used in this act:

2 (a) "County jail" means a facility that is operated by a
3 county for the physical detention and correction of individuals
4 charged with or convicted of criminal offenses and ordinance
5 violations, individuals found guilty of civil or criminal contempt,

1 and juveniles detained by court order.

2 (b) "Department" means the department of corrections.

3 (c) "Inmate" means an individual who is physically detained in
4 a county jail.

5 (d) "Prisoner" means an individual committed to or under the
6 jurisdiction of the department.

7 Sec. 2. (1) The department shall contract for prisoner
8 telephone services with a vendor that proposes the lowest per-
9 minute rate that complies with all of the following:

10 (a) The per-minute rate for calls made within the United
11 States must not exceed 7 cents per minute for debit, prepaid, and
12 collect calls.

13 (b) The per-minute rate for international calls must be
14 reasonable but may not exceed 23 cents per minute for prepaid or
15 collect calls.

16 (c) The per-minute rate must include all taxes and fees.

17 (2) If a tax, service charge, or any other fee, including, but
18 not limited to, a per-call surcharge, account setup fee, bill
19 statement fee, monthly account maintenance charge, or refund fee,
20 is not included in the per-minute rate under subsection (1), the
21 contract under subsection (1) must not allow a vendor to bill that
22 tax, charge, or fee to any party.

23 Sec. 3. (1) A county board of commissioners shall contract for
24 inmate telephone services with a vendor that proposes the lowest
25 per-minute rate that complies with all of the following:

26 (a) The per-minute rate for calls made within the United
27 States must not exceed 7 cents per minute for debit, prepaid, and
28 collect calls.

29 (b) The per-minute rate for international calls must be

1 reasonable but may not exceed 23 cents per minute for prepaid or
2 collect calls.

3 (c) The per-minute rate must include all taxes and fees.

4 (2) If a tax, service charge, or any other fee, including, but
5 not limited to, a per-call surcharge, account setup fee, bill
6 statement fee, monthly account maintenance charge, or refund fee,
7 is not included in the per-minute rate under subsection (1), the
8 contract under subsection (1) must not allow a vendor to bill that
9 tax, charge, or fee to any party.

10 Sec. 4. This act applies to contracts executed or renewed on
11 or after the effective date of this act.