



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Manufacturer's Bank Building, 12th Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-6466

PRISONERS' PHONE CALLS

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OCT 08 1990

House Bill 5804

Mich. State Law Library

Sponsor: Rep. Dominic J. Jacobetti

Committee: Appropriations

Complete to 8-28-90

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5804 AS INTRODUCED 5-22-90

The bill would amend the telephone regulation act, Public Act 206 of 1913, to specifically exempt the Department of Corrections from a provision that bars a person, copartnership, or corporation from seeking or accepting a rebate on telephone service. Under the bill, the prohibition would not prevent the department from collecting a commission on prisoners' long distance calls from a company providing long distance service. Any contract between the department and the company for long distance services would have to guarantee that all charges for calls originating from telephones used by prisoners would be consistent with the company's approved tariffs. If the rates and charges were unregulated, they could not be higher than rates and charges applying to other customers using the same or similar services. (Note: the bill proposes to amend a section of law that is to be repealed on January 1, 1992; both the existing prohibition against rebates and the bill's language would be repealed at that time.)

MCL 484.104

House Bill 5804
(8-28-90)