HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 485 FILED ON: 1/11/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1641

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Benjamin Swan

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to telephone service for inmates in all correctional and other penal institutions in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Benjamin Swan	*11th Hampden*	*1/11/2013*
Gloria L. Fox	*7th Suffolk*	*1/25/2013*
Elizabeth A. Malia	*11th Suffolk*	*1/30/2013*
Denise Provost	*27th Middlesex*	*1/31/2013*
Ellen Story	*3rd Hampshire*	*1/11/2013*
Jason M. Lewis	*Fifth Middlesex*	*1/11/2013*
Cory Atkins	*14th Middlesex*	*1/11/2013*
Eileen M. Donoghue	*First Middlesex*	*1/11/2013*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 1641

By Mr. Swan of Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1641) of Benjamin Swan and others relative to telephone service for inmates in correctional institutions. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. *2268* OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act relative to telephone service for inmates in all correctional and other penal institutions in the Commonwealth.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 87 of Chapter 127 of Massachusetts General Laws is hereby amended to include "correspondence of, and telephone service for inmates". The following subsections are hereby added:—

The cost of local and long distance telephone service provided to prisoners in department of correction facilities and county houses of correction shall be the same as the rates charged for comparable residential telephone service.

(b) The department of correction and county houses of correction shall negotiate contracts for local and long distance telephone service on the basis of offering the lowest cost to users. (c) The commonwealth, the department of correction, and the county houses of correction shall not accept commissions or revenues, nor receive any telephone services for their employees at below market rate cost from the provider(s) of prisoner telephone service.