

SENATE No. 1559

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia Stone Creem

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 inmate telephone calls.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | |
|------------------------------------|---|------------------|
| <i>Cynthia Stone Creem</i> | <i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i> | |
| <i>Joanne M. Comerford</i> | <i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i> | <i>2/10/2021</i> |
| <i>Thomas M. Stanley</i> | <i>9th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/22/2021</i> |
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i> | <i>7th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/23/2021</i> |
| <i>Jason M. Lewis</i> | <i>Fifth Middlesex</i> | <i>2/24/2021</i> |
| <i>Tami L. Gouveia</i> | <i>14th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/25/2021</i> |
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i> | <i>3/2/2021</i> |
| <i>Erika Uyterhoeven</i> | <i>27th Middlesex</i> | <i>3/2/2021</i> |
| <i>Michael J. Barrett</i> | <i>Third Middlesex</i> | <i>3/2/2021</i> |
| <i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i> | <i>Second Middlesex</i> | <i>3/19/2021</i> |
| <i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> | <i>4/5/2021</i> |
| <i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i> | <i>Second Suffolk</i> | <i>4/5/2021</i> |
| <i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i> | <i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i> | <i>4/6/2021</i> |
| <i>Adam G. Hinds</i> | <i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i> | <i>4/26/2021</i> |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i> | <i>5/24/2021</i> |
| <i>Antonio F. D. Cabral</i> | <i>13th Bristol</i> | <i>5/24/2021</i> |
| <i>Joan B. Lovely</i> | <i>Second Essex</i> | <i>6/29/2021</i> |

Julian Cyr

Cape and Islands

9/8/2021

Diana DiZoglio

First Essex

11/4/2021

SENATE No. 1559

By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1559) of Cynthia Stone Creem, Joanne M. Comerford, Thomas M. Stanley, Jack Patrick Lewis and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to inmate telephone calls. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to inmate telephone calls.

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

1 Chapter 127 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 87 the
2 following section:-

3 Section 87A. State and local agencies charged with the operation and management of
4 state prisons, local jails, and juvenile detention centers shall provide persons in their custody and
5 confined in a correctional or detention facility with voice communication service free of charge.
6 Communications shall be maximized to the extent possible. Nothing in this section shall abrogate
7 existing law preserving in-person contact visits. Such state and local agencies may supplement
8 voice communication service with other communication services, including, but not limited to,
9 video communication and electronic mail services. To the extent that such voice communication
10 service or any other communication service is provided, each such service shall be provided free
11 of charge to the person initiating and the person receiving the communication.