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

Julian Cyr	Cape and Islands	9/8/2021
Diana DiZoglio	First Essex	11/4/2021
Adam Gomez	Hampden	1/20/2022
Rebecca L. Rausch	Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex	2/16/2022

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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 Alassachusetts

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:

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

1

- 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
- service or any other communication service is provided, each such service shall be provided free
- of charge to the person initiating and the person receiving the communication.