

HR 2489

Martha Wright Prison Phone Justice Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Apr 13, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology. (Apr 14, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2489>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Rush, Bobby L. [D-IL-1]

Party: Democratic • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (48 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Veasey, Marc A. [D-TX-33]	D · TX		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Oct 19, 2021
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Oct 25, 2021
Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]	D · NY		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Dec 7, 2021
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Feb 1, 2022
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Mar 3, 2022
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Mar 15, 2022
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Mar 15, 2022
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Mar 17, 2022
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Mar 18, 2022
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Mar 24, 2022
Rep. Krishnamoorthi, Raja [D-IL-8]	D · IL		Mar 30, 2022
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Mar 31, 2022
Rep. Newman, Marie [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Apr 1, 2022
Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Apr 11, 2022
Rep. Escobar, Veronica [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Apr 25, 2022
Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]	D · NY		May 10, 2022
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jun 3, 2022
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Jun 3, 2022
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]	D · PA		Jun 3, 2022
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jun 7, 2022
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		Jun 7, 2022
Rep. McEachin, A. Donald [D-VA-4]	D · VA		Jun 14, 2022
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Aug 5, 2022
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Aug 5, 2022
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-52]	D · CA		Aug 9, 2022
Rep. Suozzi, Thomas R. [D-NY-3]	D · NY		Aug 12, 2022
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Aug 26, 2022
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Aug 26, 2022
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Sep 2, 2022
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Sep 28, 2022
Rep. Jones, Mondaire [D-NY-17]	D · NY		Oct 7, 2022
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Oct 14, 2022
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		Oct 18, 2022

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Trahan, Lori [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Oct 18, 2022
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Nov 15, 2022
Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]	D · CT		Nov 17, 2022
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		Nov 29, 2022
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Nov 29, 2022
Rep. Foster, Bill [D-IL-11]	D · IL		Dec 6, 2022
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		Dec 15, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Apr 14, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 994	Related bill	Apr 23, 2021: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

Summary (as of Apr 13, 2021)

Martha Wright Prison Phone Justice Act

This bill establishes requirements related to certain charges, practices, classifications, or regulations in connection with confinement facility (i.e., jail or prison) communications services.

Specifically, the bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish maximum rates and charges that a provider of prison communications services may charge for such services. The bill provides interim rate caps until the FCC establishes such rates and charges.

The bill requires a provider of prison communications services to assess all charges for communications on a per-minute basis for the actual duration of the communication, and it prohibits a provider from charging a per-communication or per-connection charge. A provider also may not charge an ancillary service charge except in certain circumstances.

Further, the bill prohibits a provider from assessing a site commission, which is a payment or donation made to certain entities that operate or oversee a confinement facility.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 14, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Apr 13, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 13, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.