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"CONNECTICUT STOPS"
THE EXPLOITATION OF INMATE FAMILIES"

For the past several decades the US prison system has allowed companies to come in and exploit the family member's of those who are incarcerated. Well the state of Connecticut just took a turn in the right direction allowing free phone calls for inmates. Before this Securus Technologies was charging up to \$5.00 for a 15 minute phone call. And as Democratic Representative Josh Elliot stated, " We're on the right side of history. Corporations can no longer be allowed to exploit the love between incarcerated people and their families - not in our state, not on our watch." Yes Securus like many of these companies were exploiting the need for family and friends to stay in touch. And this exploitation was done at the hands of our local government. And although this is a move in the right direction, more needs to be done. We need Federal laws passed that will stop this type of exploitation in all US jails and correctional facilities. We need to drive these contractors out of our prison system. For their exploiting not only the poorest in our society, but the most vulnerable. They have a captive audience who has no other choice but to pay these exuberantly high prices, or go without. And this issue goes a lot further than phone calls. Jpay the sister company of Securus technologies is exploiting the family and friends of the inmates here in Florida with the Jpay secure e-mail system. Jpay charges up to 40¢ for family and friends to send a secure e-mail to their loved ones. Whereas in other states such as Michigan and Washington family and friends can send an email for as little as 16¢. Which is evidence that Jpay can lower the prices and make a nice profit without price gouging the loved ones of those in the Florida Dept of Correction's. And this goes much further than Securus/Jpay Inc. The canteen contractors which provide food to the family and friends who come to visit. Well if you want to enjoy breakfast or lunch with your incarcerated loved one during a visit, you have no other choice but to purchase sandwiches, soda's and snack's at the canteen window. And your going to pay outrageously high prices! Fair market value is out of the question! And one of the companies Keefe Corporation who's currently in bids for the new FDOC canteen contract, was involved in illegal contract negotiations back in the early 2000's that sent our FDOC Secretary James V. Crosby Jr. to prison. Keefe and others were giving Crosby and his cronies financial kick backs, in order to set up this price gouging system. Yes and this was only exposed due to the reckless behavior of Crosby and his high ranking friend's. So just imagine how many other public official's in and throughout the United State are getting kick backs without detection? Yes for everyone that they expose there's probably a dozen kick backs that'll remain undetected. And this is why we need a Federal Bill brought about to get these prison contractors out of US prisons and jails and stop them from further exploiting the inmates families. For all these companies are doing is exploiting the most poor and underprivileged Americans with their exuberant prices. The time for change is now. Contact your local State and Federal Senators and Representatives and express the need for this Bill calling for prison contractors to be removed from all US prison's. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely Ronald W. Clark Jr. #812974

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