



Senate Bill No. 972

Public Act No. 21-54

**AN ACT CONCERNING COMMUNICATION SERVICES IN
CORRECTIONAL AND JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Correction shall not use the provision of voice communication service or any other communication service to persons who are in the custody of the commissioner and confined in a correctional facility to supplant in-person contact visits any such person may be eligible to receive.

(b) On and after October 1, 2022, the commissioner shall provide voice communication service to persons who are in the custody of the commissioner and confined in a correctional facility. The commissioner may supplement such voice communication service with any other communication service, including, but not limited to, video communication and electronic mail services. Any such communication service shall be provided free of charge to such persons and any communication, whether initiated or received through any such service, shall be free of charge to the person initiating or receiving the communication.

(c) On and after October 1, 2022, the state shall not receive revenue for the provision of any communication service to any person in the

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custody of the commissioner and confined in a correctional facility.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) The executive director of the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch shall not use the provision of voice communication service or any other communication service to a child who is detained in a juvenile detention facility to supplant in-person contact visits any such child may be eligible to receive.

(b) On and after October 1, 2022, the executive director shall provide voice communication service to any child who is detained in a juvenile detention facility. The executive director may supplement such voice communication service with any other communication service, including, but not limited to, video communication and electronic mail services. Any such communication service shall be provided free of charge to such child and any communication, whether initiated or received through any such service, shall be free of charge to the person or child initiating or receiving the communication.

(c) On and after October 1, 2022, the state shall not receive revenue for the provision of any communication service to any child detained in a juvenile detention center.

(d) For purposes of this section, "child" has the same meaning as provided in section 46b-120 of the general statutes.

Sec. 3. Sections 18-81x and 54-105a of the general statutes are repealed. (*Effective October 1, 2022*)