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AND ENVIRONMENT

Testimony on HB 2026 House Utilities and Telecommunications Committee February 19, 2013

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee: HB 2026 was introduced at the request of law enforcement officers who deal with state and national security issues and only deals with the sale of pre-paid mobile devices or SIM cards. It does not affect the sale of mobile phones as part of company-sponsored plans (e.g., AT&T, Verizon, SprintNextel).

The record shall be retained for one year and made available to law enforcement officers under the normal restrictions.

The intent of the bill is not to cause problems for retailers of Pre-Paid Mobile Devices or SIM Cards. The sponsoring law enforcement officers recognize that this will increase cost and time demands on retail store employees. As their testimony indicates, the ability to know who is supplying pre-paid mobile devices and SIM cards to international terrorists and domestic drug dealers warrants some inconvenience to retailers. I trust that you will agree protecting our armed forces personnel stationed overseas and our families across the U.S. warrants some inconvenience to retailers.

If you decide to reduce the record keeping requirements, please retain enough that law enforcement officers can identify purchasers of pre-paid mobile devices or SIM cards that are subsequently recovered from "evil doers."

Thank you for your attention. I will respond to questions at the appropriate time.