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July 5, 2017

MADIGAN & 29 ATTORNEYS GENERAL URGE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST SPOOFED ROBOCALLS

Chicago — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today joined with 29 other attorneys to send a letter urging the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to adopt rules that would allow telephone providers to block illegal robocalls.

The FCC has requested public comment on rules that would allow providers to block several types of “spoofed” calls, in which a call appears to be coming from one number but is actually coming from a different number. Scammers frequently use spoofed calls to hide their identity and trick consumers into believing that their calls are legitimate.

Currently, regulatory roadblocks prevent telecommunications companies from blocking many illegal robocalls. If the new rules are adopted, providers would be allowed to block calls coming from invalid numbers and unallocated numbers. For example, phone providers would be able to block a scammer that is using a telephone number that clearly can’t exist because it hasn’t been assigned.

In the letter, Madigan and the other attorneys general letter sound the alarm about the growing number of telephone scam complaints across the country and support the FCC’s proposal to remove regulatory roadblocks. As the letter points out, “legitimate businesses do not need to use any of these methods to contact consumers.”

“Robocalls are a significant problem in Illinois and across the country,” Madigan said. “The FCC must take action to help put a stop to these annoying and unwanted calls.”

Sending the letter with Madigan were the attorneys general of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, and Wisconsin.

A copy of the letter can be found [here](#).

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