Dear Attorney General Garland:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Department of Justice’s recent Proposed Rule regarding the Inmate Financial Responsibility Program. This rule is critically important to my family and me.

I am sensitive to the problem that BOP is faced with. Court-ordered payments are important, and individuals should not be able to avoid making them while amassing thousands of dollars in a BOP account. But the rule that you have proposed punishes everyone, including my loved one, for the sake of a few bad actors.

For example, insert a story or details about the money that you send your family member. Here are some things to consider adding: (1) the amount of money that you send to your loved one; (2) how hard you work to send them that money; (3) what your loved one uses that money for; (4) how the money you send helps your loved one stay connected to family and friends on the outside; (5) the negative impact it will have on your loved one if 75% of the money you send gets taken away.

I believe that the alternate proposal that BOP described as being similar to a “progressive tax” would be more fair because it would deduct a lower percentage of contributions that fall below a certain threshold and deduct a higher percentage of contributions above a certain threshold. The BOP even said this alternative would be “more equitable, recognizing that an inmate with an account balance of $100 and minimal incoming deposits is differently situated than one with an account balance of $10,000 or one with numerous deposits.” I understand that the BOP rejected this approach over a fear of the administrative burden it would impose. I hope you will reconsider. When it comes to me and my family, I think that BOP should prioritize the most equitable approach.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment and provide insight into this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

[insert name]