Slashdof Storie	s Firehose > All	Popular Polls	/. Deals	Submit	Search	Q Locier Si <u>250</u>
Topics						Follow us: 🔊 F 🚱 室 🖻
66 Want to read Slashdot						
					1	
Nickname:						
Password: 6-20 character						
Public Terminal						
Log In <u>Forgot your pas</u>						
Sign in with					I	
Google			_	_		
Facebook						
Twitter						
LinkedIn						

Close



DEAL: For \$25 - Add A Second Phone Number To Your Smartphone for life! Use promo code SLASHDOT25. Also, Slashdot's now on IFTTT. Check it out! Check out the new SourceForge HTML5 **Internet speed test!**

Republicans Want To Leave You Voicemail -- Without Ever Ringing Your Cellphone (recode.net)

Posted by <u>BeauHD</u> on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:05PM from the voice-mailbox dept. Ā

bricko quotes a report from Recode: The GOP's leading campaign and fundraising arm, the Republican National Committee, has quietly thrown its support behind a proposal at the Federal Communications Commission that would pave the way for marketers to auto-dial consumers' cellphones and leave them prerecorded voicemail messages -- all without ever causing their devices to ring. Under current federal law, telemarketers and others, like political groups, aren't allowed to launch robocall campaigns targeting cellphones unless they first obtain a consumer's written consent. But businesses stress that it's a different story when it comes to "ringless voicemail" -- because it technically doesn't qualify as a phone call in the first place. In their eyes, that means they shouldn't need a customer or voter's permission if they want to auto-dial mobile voicemail inboxes in bulk pre-made messages about a political candidate, product or cause. And they want the FCC to rule, once and for all, that they're in the clear. Their argument, however, has drawn immense opposition from consumer advocates.

cellphones government networking 🗣

 \times

 $\triangleright \times$

FREE MONEY

Switch from

Konnektive and get

your first month free

with Lime Light

Upgrade Now

f ♥ in 8+ 😳

- **Open19 Launches Open Hardware Project Targeting Edge Computing**
- BBC: UK Votes To Leave The European Union
- Donald Trump Is Sworn In As the 45th US President
- Lawrence Lessig Calls For The Electoral College to Choose Clinton Over Trump
- Clinton Urged To Challenge Election Results Due To Possible Hacking [Update]
- Slashdot Asks: Should The US Abolish The Electoral College?
- Submission: Politicians want to leave you voicemail without ever ringing your cellph
- When AI Botches Your Medical Diagnosis, Who's To Blame?



- **Republicans Want To Leave You Voicemail -- Without Ever Ringing Your Cellphone 150 More | Reply** Login

Republicans Want To Leave You Voicemail -- Without Ever Ringing Your Cellphone Load All Comments <u>Post</u> Staffull 890A6bnewiated Dolfild Enreate an Account (Seraments Filter: • **So**re: Ensightful • <u>Anformative</u> Bnteresting • <u>Eunny</u> **The Fine Print:** The following comments are owned by whoever posted them. We are not responsible for them in any way. 0 **<u>Counter-argument</u>** (Score:5, Informative) **b D** Marthe (#54474017) on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:07PM (#54474017) People want to leave politicians and marketers a big turd on their front door - without ever ringing their doorbell. Nicknameis Raisswondel 6-20 characters long Flequeril Propriete 0 • **<u>R</u>** Log ln <u>Forgot your password?</u> **Funny** by <u>Dymeknight (3703507)</u> on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:28PM (<u>#54474123</u>) In this case, I believe the 3 AM Vuvuzela Orchestra in D-minor outside their bedroom window is more appropriate. <u>Reply to This</u> Parent Share <u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> 🕑 Flag as Inappropriate Re: (Score:2) by <u>Z00L00K (682162</u>) Politicians in power are so far from the public that they won't hear you over their 100 acre lawn. Re: (Score:2) by DontBeAMoran (4843879) http://media.ifunny.com/result... [ifunny.com] Re: (Score:2) by johanw (1001493) Although most providers where I live tend to hide the option, the most usefull thing about voicemail is the off switch. Send me a WhatsApp (the defacto standard here) if you need to contact me while I'm not available. But WhatsApp has an anti-spam policy so that option is not available for scum like marketeers. <u>New Revenue Stream!</u> (<u>Score:5</u>, Insightful) by <u>R3d M3rcury</u> (871886) on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:11PM (#54474033) Journal ...and AT&T can charge \$20/month to automatically remove it! <u>Reply to This</u> **Share** <u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> 🕑 Flag as Inappropriate • <u>Re: (Score:2</u>) by <u>Z00L00K (682162</u>) So just add a spoken message to the voicemail that you don't use it due to spam, then turn off all notifications and use a hidden number.

Things like that causes people to avoid using phones. I have a private hidden number on my private mobile phone just to avoid telemarketers.

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>kenwd0elq (985465</u>) Of ALL the political parties....

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>meerling</u> (1487879)

LoL, I'll have to use that term the next time I'm in a Shadowrun or Cyberpunk game. In real life though, just stick with recalls, votes, and writing your politicians to tell them what you think about it.

• <u>call (202) 226-8000</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>Joe Dragon (2206452)</u> and fill up the voice mail.

<u>I'm starting a web site</u> (<u>Score:5</u>, Interesting)

by taustin (171655) on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:18PM (#54474071) Homepage Journal to document every politician who does this, how often, and about what. It will offer no commentary on whether it is

good or bad, whether the politician should be thrown out of office or given a medal. Just that they did it, how often, and about what.

Who is willing to help me post bail when I'm arrested for it?

<u>Reply to This</u> <u>Share</u>

<u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> 🞯 Flag as Inappropriate

• <u>Re:</u> (Score:2)

by FudRucker (866063)

post a link for submissions when you do, i will even record the messages in mp3 or ogg format and send them, let the whole public know what those dirty rotten scoundrels are saying

• <u>Re:</u> (Score:2)

by Imrik (148191)

Just make sure you're recording the ones that are doing this, not the ones the ads are supporting. They aren't always the same people precisely because of people like you.

• <u>Re:</u> (Score:2)

by Pfhorrest (545131)

There are already a plethora of websites where users can document obnoxious phone calls (and other users can look up numbers to see who is this unknown caller calling you, and read those complaints about it). Seriously just search the web for any random unknown caller's number and you'll find tons of them. Unless these prerecorded ringless voicemails don't have a callback number associated with them somehow, those existing sites would serve that function just fine.

<u>Re: I'm starting a web site</u> (<u>Score:2</u>, Informative)

by Anonymous Coward Try http://800notes.com/ They have been collecting data for over six years.

<u>Re: (Score:3)</u>

by <u>taustin</u> (171655)

And they'll only censor the entries about politicians they agree with. You know, like they do now.

• <u>Let them (Score:2</u>)

by Jrono (470199)

Let them.

The backlash to ghost Republican voicemail spam will be so severe Reagan, Nixon, and Lincoln will all posthumously switch to the Democratic Party.

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Imrik (148191)</u>

Even if the voicemails initially appear to support Democrats?

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u>

Voicemail spam could support unicorns, puppydogs and world peace and it would STILL be considered harassment.

• Re:Let them (Score:5, Interesting)

by <u>kenwd0elq (985465</u>) <<u>kenwd0elq@gmail.com</u>> on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @10:57PM (<u>#54474605</u>) Reagan at least was a Democrat for quite a while. Back in the early 1970's, he said that he didn't leave the Democrat party; the Democrat party left him. And if you read the party platforms and public statements of most Dems in the 1950s through the mid-70's, they sound VERY Republican. Today's Democrats used to be called "Communists", and today's Republicans used to be solidly Democrat. Last century's Republicans are now Libertarians, or Anarchists.

<u>Reply to This</u> Parent Share

<u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> Flag as Inappropriate

<u>Re:Let them</u> (<u>Score:5</u>, Insightful)

by Pfhorrest (545131) on Wednesday May 24, 2017 @12:28AM (#54474955) Homepage Journal

Today's Democrats used to be called "Communists"

Completely the opposite. Eisenhower was further to the left of any politician in recent memory. Reagan and Nixon were further to the left than most *Democrats* today. The whole spectrum has moved to the right in absolute terms -- but both left and right have moved further from their common center, so from a parochial point of view ignorant of history and the wider world, it *looks* like the left has moved left, relative to the current center, which is far right of where it used to be.

See the many sourced answers here for more details: https://www.guora.com/The-Left... [quora.com]

<u>Reply to This</u> Parent <u>Share</u>

twitter facebook linkedin 🕑 <u>Flag as Inappropriate</u>

<u>Re:</u> (Score:3, Interesting)

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u>

Please. From over here in Europe, what your political system looks like is one religious nutjob party that hates everything non-white and one non-religious nutjob party that hates everything white. I can't really see anything resembling a political platform in either of them. Mostly because they have pretty much identical stances on everything but religion and whether or not white males are the devil.

<u>Re: (Score:3)</u>

by Anne Thwacks (531696)

If you had been here, you would realise that the level of terrorism is trivial to when the Americans were funding the IRA, and in spite of the terrorists, the murder rate in Europe (even the worst parts) is still far lower than the murder rate in America due to Americans.

"Guns don't kill people - Americans kill people"

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>) by <u>Z00L00K (682162</u>)

I suspect that they would have transited to the Libertarian party instead.

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>rworne (538610)</u>

The backlash to ghost Republican voicemail spam will be so severe Reagan, Nixon, and Lincoln will all posthumously switch to the Democratic Party.

Those guys all switched already. Back on January 20, 2017, to be exact.

No, they switched on June 5, 2004, April 22, 1994, and April 15th, 1865, respectively. That's how the Democrats roll..

<u>HLR codes on any Standard GSM network</u> (<u>Score:4</u>, Informative)

by <u>psergiu</u> (67614) on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:23PM (<u>#54474099</u>) *#61# (call) - Shows if Voice Mail (voice forwarding) is enabled and your Voice Mail number. #004# (call) - Disable all Voice Mail forwards. If your network is non-standard (or your network operator is a prick) those don't work, call customer support and ask them to disable Voice Mail completely and remove your Voice Mail mailbox from the HLR.

VoiceMail is useless anyways. If someone really needs to get hold of you, they will call again.

<u>Reply to This</u> <u>Share</u>

<u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> 🚱

Flag as Inappropriate

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>dwywit (1109409</u>)

It's not useless. If your number is set to "private" or "withheld", then I'm not going to pick up - ever. You need to leave me a message if you want me to contact you.

How much does it cost for a 1-900 number? Or whatever the automatic reverse-charge service is.

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>psergiu</u> (67614)

If i get ANY call with "private" or "withheld" i reject the call right away. 99% chance it's a telemarketer or scammer, 1% chance is a bozo friend that discovered how to hide his caller-id and wants to prank you. Why lose your time listening to the messages ? And also paying for that (listening to VMs is usually not free)

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>dwywit (1109409</u>)

No, it's not generally scammers or bozos - it's customers who are particular about privacy, or just paranoid about their numbers escaping to the wild, so I have to be able to respond to them. Yes, voicemail service is a cost, but it's tax-deductible for business, so it's not too bad.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>Darinbob</u> (1142669)

Not true. I get voicemail from family all the time. Since it's on the phone they assume I will see it eventually. The phone calls don't get through because I won't answer the phone all the time, I may be in meetings, drivings, at the store, etc. That's the whole purpose of voice mail so that the phone stops becoming your master and demanding that you respond NOW or else!

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>psergiu</u> (67614)

The phone is not your master - your family is now - they know you will waste your time listening to whatever idea they have at any moment.

If you cannot respond NOW, you reject the call. If they call again, then it's something important and you answer. Or they can send a text. Or they can respect you and wait until you have time to call them back.

• <u>Re:</u> (Score:2)

by <u>Pfhorrest (545131)</u>

VoiceMail is useless anyways. If someone really needs to get hold of you, they will call again. While probably true, it's also true that if someone really needs to get hold of you, they will leave a voicemail. This makes ignoring all calls and only checking voicemail a good way to screen out pointless time-wasting calls. If it's important there will be a voicemail, if there's no voicemail it obviously wasn't that important (or they messages you another way instead).

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>psergiu</u> (67614)

I personally almost never leave voicemails. I will call again later if i really need to talk to that person. I find-it degrading to basically be told: "yeah - we don't feel like talking to you, speak to this machine instead and maybe we'll consider listening later". I'm calling a person because i want to speak at that moment with that person. Else i would send a text message or email.

<u>Re: (Score:3)</u>

by <u>Pfhorrest (545131)</u>

And I find it degrading to be expected to drop everything else I'm juggling and give my undivided attention to a task I don't yet know warrants that treatment. So please go ahead and send a text or email, or leave a short voicemail, saying what it is you want to talk about -- you don't have to talk at length to the machine, just give me an informative subject line basically -- and I will try to find the time to give you that undivided attention at the appropriate level priority. But I can't afford to let ju

• Re: (Score:2) by meerling (1487879) Have you ever gotten death threats? Letting it ring to voicemail is a way to screen that kind of garbage.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u>

I like to have voicemail as a trap for those people I don't want to talk to. They leave voicemail and think that I'll eventually get back to them instead of calling again and again and annoy me that way.

• <u>Consent</u> (<u>Score:2</u>, Informative)

by <u>PopeRatzo</u> (965947)

"Grab them by the pussy. You can do anything." Republicans have never been big on consent.

• <u>okay (Score:2</u>)

by FudRucker (866063)

but can people delete it without ever having to call their voicemail?? the cellphone providers should be allowed to give customers the choice to have the unsolicited voicemails deleted automatically as soon as it is recorded, perhaps a whitelist so your voicemail will only accept voicemail from authorized callers like those in your contacts in your phone

• <u>New Record</u> (<u>Score:5</u>, Interesting)

by Fire Wraith (1460385) on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:29PM (#54474133)

I have to hand it to the Republicans - I thought they couldn't come up with any measures that would be any lower or more despised than they already have. I clearly underestimated them, because who would have thought they'd side with telemarketers, of all people?

<u>Reply to This</u> <u>Share</u>

<u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> 🕑 Flag as Inappropriate

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by Darinbob (1142669)

Political parties are all about, at their heart, marketing. The only difference from your average telemarketer is the lack of quality of the product they are selling.

<u>Re: (Score:3)</u>

by <u>gweilo8888</u> (921799)

Yep. It's nice when the game is carefully rigged and gerrymandered in your favor so you can win even when you're the unpopular party, isn't it?

/sarcasm, in case it isn't obvious

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>rickb928 (945187)</u> Ask Bernie.

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by DogDude (805747) Fuck you, Russian spam bot.

Re: (Score:2)

by Fire Wraith (1460385)

I suppose it wouldn't do any good to point out that I said measures, now? If the Democrats tried pulling something like this - and I mean changing the FCC rules to allow someone to pull this sort of shit - I'd be pissed off at them too.

And if a Democratic candidate did it regardless of the rules? I'd expect them to get slapped and fined for it.

But let's be brutally honest, the two parties are NOT equally bad right now. That's not to give the Dems a pass, it's just that the Republicans have gone totally

• <u>Only one thing to say (Score:2)</u> by DrLudicrous (607375) FUCK THAT SHIT

• How? (Score:2) by <u>Balthisar (649688</u>) How do you leave a voicemail without ringing the phone?

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

0

0

by Jonathan C. Patschke (8016)

The typical way companies do this is to issue two call simultaneously, and disconnect whichever call connects to the switch first (under a second). The telco will roue the remaining call to voicemail, and this usually happens before the call notification worms its way through the cellular network to the handset. The student loan scammers are already doing this. One company was calling-not-calling my phone five times an hour? Not a distraction? It certainly is! My phone still goes vrrt-vrrt, and I sti

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by freeze128 (544774) Quick! Everybody get a land line!

• <u>Re: (Score:2</u>)

by <u>EETech1</u> (1179269) Slvdial (267) 759-3425 (267) sly-dial

• <u>"Immense opposition from consumer advocates"</u> (Score:2, Insightful)

by jenningsthecat (1525947)

ought to include tarring, feathering, and dragging those responsible out of town on a rail - first in effigy, then on the living, breathing offenders themselves if the measures applied to their effigies don't convince them to do the right thing. It's time for beleaguered citizens to hand these fuckers their asses - literally if necessary.

<u>They do this in Australia</u> (<u>Score:5</u>, Informative)

by MrKaos (858439) on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:44PM (#54474251) Journal

And they send you SMS messages. The best way to describe it is *FUCKING ANNOYING*. You listen to you messages and then you hear some shit "Did you know that such and such is a dick and therefore has no business in politics: Vote Asshole - We're full of shit".

I did the best I could to familiarize myself with the VM controls so I could delete those messages immediately without listening to them. The worst this is you can't leave a message for them telling them to fuck off. Yeah, it's *that* annoying.

<u>Share</u> <u>Reply to This</u>

<u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> 🞯

Flag as Inappropriate

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by Opportunist (166417)

Trump's messages were at least entertaining. But then again, I'm a fan of the Three Stooges and their antics, so YMMV.

<u>What the Hell, I got karma to burn</u> (Score:5, Insightful)

by <u>rsilvergun (571051</u>) on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:47PM (<u>#54474259</u>)

so I'm gonna say this: Why is it whenever something awful comes up it's always the Republicans front and center. Yeah, yeah, there's some blue dog Dems that'll vote for it, but none of them would had the gall (and the balls) to actually put a bill on the floor.

What I'm saying is this: both sides aren't the same. One is objectively worse. And every year we fail to call them on it they get a little bit worse as they realize they can get away with everything while people shout: "But both sides are bad!".

<u>Reply to This</u> <u>Share</u>

<u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> 🞯 Flag as Inappropriate

• <u>Re:</u> (Score:3)

by CaseCrash (1120869)

yeah, I'm all over the conservative/liberal spectrum depending on the issue, but I am getting tired of the GOP's "no matter what happens, party first, everything our guys do is great and we all support it" and the weird adherence they have to lower taxes will lead to more jobs and then higher tax revenues and you don't really need privacy and by that we mean everything you do should be tracked and monetized.

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Cyberax</u> (705495)

Because as a rule, when something awful and authoritarian is proposed it's Republicans who are doing it. Usually with a couple of token Democrats, so that clueless idiots can keep repeating: "but both parties are doing it!"

<u>Technical countermeasures (Score:2)</u>

by <u>dcavanaugh</u> (248349)

- 1. Auto delete any voice mail from numbers that are not in my address book.
- 2. Access code required to leave a voice mail message. Unauthenticated senders need not apply.

3. Voice recognition software screens each voice mail, comparing new messages to a centralized database of spam messages.

I will do whatever it takes to make sure these crap calls fail. At worst, I'll ditch voice mail altogether. There is something to be said for putting the telephone out of its misery. With so many illegal telemarketers ig

Look at the flip side (Score:2)

by <u>Registered Coward v2 (447531)</u>

This would allow anyone to flood Congresscritter's voicemails silently as well; all you need is to get their number and be on the same provider. No hangups, just long missives they would have to go through until they block your number. They would no doubt spoof, use various numbers, or use unavailable as their number Seriously though, how is this a free speech first amendment issue? I have no obligation to provide them with a platform for their speech, and my phone is private property where the first doesn

<u>Sure, it's not a phone call</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by viperidaenz (2515578)

But how is voice message spam any different than text message spam?

Apart from some people having to pay to check their voice mail and you don't even get the opportunity to know who it is before incurring the charge?

Unless the carrier sends you a message saying who sent you a voice message. In that case it's both voice and text message spam.

• <u>Re:</u> (Score:2)

by <u>avandesande</u> (143899)

Is there any cellphone service that does not charge you minutes when you access your voicemail?

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by I'm New Around Here (1154723)

Do cellphone carriers still charge by the minute? I thought it was all unlimited calls now.

• If its not technically a phone call ... (Score:2)

by <u>PPH (736903)</u>

... then my phone company technically doesn't have to connect it. Not unless they get a cut of that fundraising. ISPs are positively salivating about the impending death of net neutrality and the possibility of 'pay to play' for fundraisers' e-mails and web sites. I'm sure the phone companies will jump at the chance to connect GOP candidates with their constituencies for a fee.

• <u>Kill them</u> (<u>Score:2</u>, Interesting)

by JustAnotherOldGuy (4145623) Kill anyone who approves or promotes this. Kill them, and make it painful.

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

0

by JustAnotherOldGuy (4145623)

Fail, fail, fail. I'm not a millennial, not by a long shot. Try again, troll.

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u>

But I do have one quick question: Is it illegal futt-buck a duly elected representative or appointed official until their eyeballs bleed?

Depends mostly on the size of your campaign contribution.

How do they know who I am? (Score:2)

by thinkwaitfast (4150389)

The best that I can tell, google thinks I'm a gay and interested in a sex change. Maybe google knows something about me that I don't.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>Osqeld</u> (1900440)

heh its creepy, I followed a forum link to a NES classic wanna be knock off cheap shit chineese famiclone, and everything else on the page was dildo's

now ebay thinks all I want to look at is dildo's, never mind the FUCKING DECADE of NOT looking at dildo's on EBAY (shit that's what amazon is for)

• <u>Voicemail...</u> (Score:2)

by Enter the Shoggoth (1362079)

How quaint. I disabled voicemail on my cell phone around five years ago and I've not missed it at all. The only people who leave voicemail are either advertising pricks trying to annoy you or your boss wanting to harass you outside of hours. If it's important they'll email or text.

No, what they really want (Score:2)

by TheOuterLinux (4778741)

is to be able to have your phone answer its own calls. If voice mail can be reached without dialing a phone, I can assure you their Muslim Soviet witch hunt (which is just an excuse) team is working on a way to also answer calls for you too via a similar protocol. It can already be done, but I mean in a legal and easier way. To give you an example, they only made it legal for ISP's to sell your web data so that they can buy it off them rather than go through a court system.

• <u>Re: No, what they really want (Score:2)</u>

by TheOuterLinux (4778741)

And, a lot of us use VoIP already. Any Magic Jack users? Guess what? Those calls are "internet data" as far as your ISP is concerned. Enjoy that thought.

• <u>Ineffective</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>JeffOwl</u> (2858633)

Under current federal law, telemarketers and others, like political groups, aren't allowed to launch robocall campaigns targeting cellphones unless they first obtain a consumer's written consent. Really? Huh. Then why do I seem to be getting them?

<u>How strange</u> (Score:2)

by <u>dohzer (867770</u>)

That's strange, because I want them to NOT leave voice mail, also without calling me. Maybe we can just agree on the "not calling me" part?

• <u>Here's an idea....</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by buss error (142273)

Let's not, and say we did.

I don't like my own party anymore, much less the republicans. I don't want to hear from any of the lying scumbags.

<u>Who pays my bill?</u> (Score:2)

by sgunhouse (1050564)

I use a prepay phone with an old-style plan (25 cent connection fee and 5 cents per minute), I don't use my phone much and that's cheaper than more recent prepay plans (such as \$1 for each day you use it on, etc.) Will they reimburse me for the extra cost incurred by checking my voicemail more often? (Come to think of it, it would probably be worse if I were on the \$1 for each day you use it on plan ...)

And I want... (Score:2)

by Hans Lehmann (571625)

I want Republicans to be rounded up an exterminated, every single one of them Tell you what, if I get my wish, I'll give them their wish. Deal?

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u> Why stop at Republicans? Equality now!

Politicians are minimally responsive (Score:2)

by <u>Beeftopia</u> (1846720)

Politicians are minimally responsive to the general concerns of the population. Seems counterintuitive. But they're able to do this because of:

1) Gerrymandered districts.

2) <u>Heavy special interest dollars.</u> [opensecrets.org]

I mean, even when times are rough, <u>incumbency rates are very high.</u> [opensecrets.org]

What we also need are term limits. Yes, they have costs and benefits. But they approved term limits for the president, one of 537 federal politicians (100 senators + 435 representatives + president + vice president). The reason was to preven

• <u>Re: (Score:2</u>)

by <u>Beeftopia</u> (1846720)

What we also need are term limits.

When you give politicians the real possibility of having a lifetime career as a politicians, it focuses them on doing everything they possibly can - as a group - to keep their political office. This makes them takes steps to insulate themselves from the electorate, whose whims may not always be kind to them.

If being a lifetime politician is not an option, they would hold their seat less dearly, and perhaps be persuaded to govern more effectively and responsively, instead o

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>frdmfqhtr (603968)</u>

What we also need are term limits.

We do...we vote for Representatives every, what, two years, and Senators six years. Their terms are limited to how often we re-elect them. We end their term by voting for somebody else.

Alas, but despite the dismally low approval rating of Congress, it's always "my Sentator/Representative is fine, it's the rest of them that are worthless crooks!"

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Beeftopia</u> (1846720)

We do...we vote for Representatives every, what, two years, and Senators six years. Their terms are limited to how often we re-elect them. We end their term by voting for somebody else.

We also vote for president every four years. And he is term-limited in order to prevent the warping of the system which could occur, as it does in many countries, with long-serving leaders.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by Fire Wraith (1460385)

Term limits don't solve the problem though. If anything, they empower the lobbyists, because lobbyists don't get term-limited, and they wind up knowing the issues far better than your 2-3 term congresscritter. Moreover, that congresscritter is probably going to be currying favor with lobbies, if only because they know that in 4-6 years it's time to look for a new job.

What you're missing is that long term incumbency isn't the problem itself, it's WHY there's so many long term incumbents. Someone who gets r

<u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Beeftopia</u> (1846720)

Term limits don't solve the problem though. If anything, they empower the lobbyists, because lobbyists don't get term-limited, and they wind up knowing the issues far better than your 2-3 term congresscritter. I strongly suspect most lobbyists know the the details of their pet issues better than any congresscritter. Lobbyists are professional persuaders. If they have to persuade someone new every few years, they would have a more difficult job, which is good.

What you're missing is that long term incumbency

<u>People still use voicemail?</u> (Score:2)

by wymarle (1070040)

Here all plans come with voicemail service by default, but it must have been nearly a decade since anyone left me a voicemail, or since I left one. Nobody uses it. The last voicemails that I ever got were recorded ads - ads that start playing the moment the line is connected, so the voicemail recording starts somewhere midway the message. I should check my phone to see whether I have voicemail even enabled. It probably is. If ever I get a voicemail, I hope the notification includes instructions on how to lis

• <u>Fine with me</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by The Cisco Kid (31490)

I use google voice for voicemail and have the voicemail from my cell carrier disabled.

For my GV setup, all callers except a few direct family and friends get bunted directly to voicemail without it ever ringing anyway. If anyone else wants to get in touch with me, they need to leave a message anyway. If the message doesn't say who they are and what they want, I'll just ignore it. If it does, then I can decide I'm not interested and still ignore it.

For some reason, so far, most don't want to leave me message

<u>Politics (Score:2)</u> by <u>OYAHHH (322809)</u>

Since when did /. become politics everyday?

Hey, what's the best way... (Score:2)

by <u>Sperbels</u> (1008585)

Q: What's the best way to ensure everyone stops using voice mail? A: Fill up their call-screening-utility/voice-mail with spam.

• <u>Oh PLEASE let this come quickly!</u> (Score:2)

by Opportunist (166417)

0

0

0

"Sorry, boss, I couldn't get back to you, I didn't get to the voice mail you left me yet" And he will just nod and mutter because he knows the problem well himself.

• <u>Cost to phone owner (Score:2</u>)

by <u>Tomahawk (1343</u>)

I've a question - how many mobile phone/cell phone companies in the US charge their customers for checking their voicemail?

I believe (and I'm not sure about this) that I can dial 171 on my phone and check my voice mail for free (but I need to check - I don't use voice mail and never configured it on my account).

If there is a cost to the receiver of the message, is that enough to stop this from happening?

• <u>Re:We're going to get this sooner or later</u> (<u>Score:5</u>, Interesting)

by <u>quantaman (517394</u>) on Tuesday May 23, 2017 @09:36PM (<u>#54474183</u>)

We haven't reached critical mass yet, but once enough people only use cell phones for communication the floodgates will be opened.

Cellphones were on par with landlines in 2014 [businessinsider.com]. I'm sure they're a healthy majority now. Either way, I can think of few things more obnoxious than prerecorded voicemails. It's bad enough I don't even know why marketers would want to do so in the first place, I'm not sure what marketing course teaches to you associate your client with feelings of incandescent rage.

Reply to This Parent Share

<u>twitter facebook linkedin</u> <u>Flag as Inappropriate</u>

<u>Re:</u> (Score:2)

by meerling (1487879)

There's a reason I'm on the do not call list, to get rid of that kind of B.S. in the first place. As to landlines, I only know 4 people that have one, everyone else just has cellphones.

The solution? (Score:3)

by jandersen (462034)

I never use voicemail - it is one of the (mis-)features I always turn off if at all possible; and if not, I simply ignore it and let it fill up. Why? Because I have to actually call a service number to access voice mail messages and then work with an awkward interface; I may even have to pay call time to do so. There are much better alternatives now: instant messaging. My favourite (that is, the first one I tried and found reasonably useful) is WeChat; I know all the criticisms, so don't bother - the point

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>TWX (665546)</u>

Is there a way to configure voicemail to only allow either approved numbers or approved ranges of numbers? I would be happy to approve only my local area codes if I could. That would not eliminate all spammers but might well eliminate most of them.

It also sounds like we need to push for our cell phone providers to create the voicemail equivalent of spam filters, where if the voicemail system receives too many voicemails to too many boxes from the same number it would get deleted as unwanted spam. If we a

<u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>gl4ss</u> (559668)

The problem is that the voicemail is held on the operators end, not on your phone, so theres not you approving it. which is how the whole leaving you voicemail without ever calling you works anyways so it's unlikely there would be some filter if it were to go through.

older smartphones had apps for on-device voicemail though, not sure if current apis allow easily for that. you could just turn off the voicemail and never use it like most people tbh.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>Z00L00K (682162)</u>

And the disputes will be handled in a basement at Proxima Centauri with a missing staircase.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>freeze128 (544774)</u>

Then this is a problem that solves itself. Spammers send voicemails without ringing your phone until your voicemail is full. Then the just get "Voicemail is full message", and then realize that nobody is listening to the voicemails. Problem solved.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>Opportunist (166417</u>) It is easier to ignore, I give you that.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

0

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u> Then enjoy!

"I'm sorry boss that you couldn't leave the message that I should come in early today. Damn marketeers."

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u>

If the price is right, they'll even swallow. Like any whore.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by Opportunist (166417)

No need to go back that far, just dig up Eisenhower. Even as a corpse he's a better prez than anything we had in the past 2 decades.

• <u>Re: (Score:2)</u>

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u> When will these politicians stop taking 'financial incentives' and stand up for their constituents? When working becomes more popular than getting money. Basically the reason communism didn't work out as planned.

• <u>Re:</u> (<u>Score:2</u>)

by <u>Opportunist (166417)</u>

The FCC should open up a voice mail box instead. Just to get a rerun of the most recent blunder.

<u>Related Links</u> Top of the: <u>day</u>, <u>week</u>, <u>month</u>.

- 1592 comments<u>BBC: UK Votes To Leave The European Union</u>
- 1560 comments
 Donald Trump Is Sworn In As the 45th US President
- 1430 comments<u>Lawrence Lessig Calls For The Electoral College to Choose Clinton Over Trump</u>
- 1321 comments<u>Clinton Urged To Challenge Election Results Due To Possible Hacking [Update]</u>
- 1081 comments<a>Slashdot Asks: Should The US Abolish The Electoral College?



When AI Botches Your Medical Diagnosis, Who's To Blame? 125 comments



previous

Open19 Launches Open Hardware Project Targeting Edge Computing 10 comments

- Teen Vanishes In Aruba: But 10 Years Later, Police Uncover Truth (LifeDaily.com)
- Rare War Photos Not Suitable For History Books (HistoryNut.com)
- "I'm a Lawyer" If you have ANY degree, You can Become a Lawyer - Study a Graduate Diploma in Law Online from Home (The Study Network)
- The Most Beautiful Woodstock 1969 Photos Ever Captured (NinjaJournalist)
- His Neighbors Were Outraged at First. Now They Think He's a Brilliant! (Fitavation.com)

Slashdot

<u>Post</u>

Cet 150 More Comments 100 of 232 loaded Submit Story Every little picofarad has a nanohenry all its own. -- Don Vonada FAQ Story Archive Hall of Fame Advertising Terms Privacy Cookie Preferences Opt Out Choices About Feedback Mobile View

Blog

Trademarks property of their respective owners. Comments owned by the poster. Copyright © 2017 SlashdotMedia. All Rights Reserved.

<u>Close</u>

<u>Slashdot</u>

 \triangleright