

The parties contend that additional time to prepare comments and reply comments will benefit, not disadvantage, other interested parties, the public, and the Commission by facilitating the development of a complete and robust record.⁸

3. As set forth in Section 1.46 of the Commission's Rules, the Commission's policy is that extensions of time for filing comments in rulemaking proceedings shall not be routinely granted.⁹ In this case, however, an extension of the comment and reply period is warranted to enable commenters to adequately respond to the issues presented in the *Notice*. We decline, however, to grant the full extension requested by the parties. We find that none of the arguments presented justify the requested delay in the comment cycle in this proceeding.

4. First, the complexity of the issues and the range of proposed rule changes do not warrant such a lengthy extension of time. Second, overlapping filing deadlines and comment cycles are not unusual, given the press of Commission business.¹⁰ Similarly, scheduling conflicts of interested organizations occur year-round, and granting extensions based on such conflicts would make it impossible to maintain comment cycles in rulemaking proceedings that implicate the interests of a wide range of parties and associations. With the extension granted herein, interested parties will now have 14 additional days to prepare comments and reply comments. We believe that this provides parties with ample time to prepare responses to the *Notice*. If commenters have additional relevant information to provide after the reply comments are due, they may provide that through *ex parte* filings in the docket.¹¹

5. Accordingly, IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to sections 4(i), 4(j), 303(r) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 154(i), 154(j), and 303(r), and sections 0.91, 0.291, 1.46, and 1.415 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.91, 0.291, 1.46, and 1.415, that the Motion for Extension of Time filed by SHLB et al. and the Request for Extended Comment Period filed by EdLiNC are GRANTED, to the extent described above. The deadline for filing comments is extended to **July 29, 2019**, and the deadline for filing reply comments is extended to **August 26, 2019**.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Kris Anne Monteith
Chief
Wireline Competition Bureau

⁸ See EdLiNC Letter at 1-2; SHLB et al. Motion at 1-2, 4.

⁹ 47 CFR. § 1.46.

¹⁰ See, e.g., *Connect America Fund* et al., Order, 29 FCC Rcd 10468 (WCB/WTB Sept. 3, 2014); *Protecting the Privacy of Customer of Broadband and Other Telecommunications Services*, Order, 31 FCC Rcd 3943 (WCB Apr. 29, 2016).

¹¹ The proceeding the *Notice* initiates shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules. See *Notice* at para. 27; 47 CFR §§ 1.1200 et seq.