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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Applications of T-Mobile US, Inc. and Sprint Corporation, WT Docket No. 18-197

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I am a healthcare professional and a member of the Northwest LGBT Senior Care Providers Network. In this capacity, I work with LGBTQ seniors and can see how critical the issues of healthcare privacy and sufficient access to appropriate care are to this community.

The promise of remote health care delivery enabled by the internet preceded its availability, largely because network speed and capacity had to improve before patients could expect real-time two-way interaction without problems. T-Mobile's merger with Sprint, and specifically the advanced 5G network proposed, is the technology we need to make telemedicine a reality.

Telehealth services will mean improved healthcare for underserved communities across the country. For seniors, many of whom see more than one doctor, remote healthcare reduces the need to travel for care—and this is true in both rural areas, where travel means driving long distances, and urban areas, where seniors must often rely on a maze of public transportation options to get to their doctors.

For the LGBTQ community, telehealth services mean the ability to access doctors and specialists who are experts in addressing our specific healthcare needs. This would be a big step forward in providing inclusive healthcare.

While there are many reasons to support a merger between T-Mobile and Sprint, the promise of improved access and inclusive care is an important goal to the LGBTQ community, so telehealth is a priority.

Sincerely,



Steve Garrett

Northwest LGBT Senior Care Providers Network