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

March 15, 2019

Dear Secretary Dortch,

As the Governor of Kansas, I am writing to express my support for the pending merger between T-Mobile and Sprint.

Sprint has deep historic roots in Kansas dating back to the late 1800's when the company started as a local telephone company in Abilene. Sprint’s commitment to Kansas has never changed during its entire history. Their commitment will remain strong once the merger between T-Mobile and Sprint is approved.

Approval of this merger will allow greater investment which will fuel greater economic growth across Kansas and the country in an increasingly competitive and ever-changing telecommunications market. The availability of affordable high-speed internet access through broadband facilities is critical to economic opportunity, job creation, education, and civic engagement. Nearly 30 million Americans cannot reap the benefits of the digital age. The merger between T-Mobile with Sprint will help bridge the digital divide especially in rural Kansas.

I understand that the merger facilitates the construction and operation of a nationwide 5G network that will result in job creation and increased competition in the wireless industry and benefit Kansas consumers and businesses. This merger presents us with the opportunity to set the stage for the next wave of wireless entrepreneurship and innovation.

The new T-Mobile will provide the network speeds, capacity, and coverage needed to fuel economic growth. I hope you will recognize the benefits that the merger will bring to Kansas and the rest of the country.

I appreciate the Federal Communications Commission’s thoughtful consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Laura Kelly
Governor Laura Kelly