

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Petition for Waiver of	)	
FCC Form 471 Filing Deadline	)	
	)	
Laurens County School District 55	)	CC Docket No. 02-6
(LAURENS55, BEN 127164)	)	
	)	
Schools and Libraries Universal Service	)	
Support Mechanism	)	

**Petition for Waiver of  
FCC Form 471 Filing Deadline for Funding Year 2019  
RE: FCC Form 471 191042052**

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**I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

The Laurens County School District 55 (“LAURENS55”) serves 5700 students, 80% of which identify as low income, Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12. Since the inception of the Federal E-Rate program, LAURENS55 has been a very small but successful participant.

LAURENS55 submitted and certified their Funding Year 2019 FCC Form(s) 471, 191042052, in the “Apply Online” portal of the Schools and Libraries Division (“SLD”) of the Universal Service Administrative Company’s (“USAC”) website, on April 10, 2019, 14 days after the FCC Form 471 filing deadline of March 27, 2019.

LAURENS55 issued contracts to each of the Service Providers selected as a result of its Form 470 Filing well within the timeline for collecting documentation and filing its application. All but one of the contracts were returned promptly. The third Service Provider did not return the contract despite frequent efforts to follow-up. By the time the contract matter was resolved it was late on the last date

to file a 471 and the EPC Portal had slowed to a crawl, prohibiting timely submittal of Bulk Upload Templates and application data entry.

Despite scheduling conflicts, and the crippling timing of the departure of a Full Time Senior E-Rate Compliance Analyst (within SAI,) LAURENS55 and SAI, were able to 1) complete the workload required in order to comply with the procurement code of the district and of that of the Federal E-Rate program and 2) file the district's application during the course of the two weeks just following the March 27 Deadline. LAURENS55's the applications were still submitted within two weeks of the original filing deadline.

## **II. Request**

On behalf of Laurens County School District 55, I respectfully petition the Commission to request a waiver of the Funding Year 2019 FCC Form 471 filing deadline, to allow the *Out of Window* submission of their E-Rate Funding Year 2019 FCC Form 471 191042052. To do otherwise would be to contribute to unintended consequences of hardship and inequity for the students and teachers of the LAURENS55.

We all thank you for your kind attention to this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

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On behalf of  
Hampton County School District 1  
BEN 127261  
**Dated:** May 22, 2019