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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I am a small business owner and technologist that supports broadband competition. In my area, the only way I've been able to get quality DSL was through an independent ISP who took the time and care to manually inspect and repair old wiring in my home. I tried to get results with AT&T and unfortunately, they refused to make the necessary repairs, to literally go the last mile to ensure I had quality broadband for my business and my family. This has happened in the last three homes we have lived in. My independent ISP was able to schedule a meeting with the larger ISP (AT&T) that controls the wiring and fix the underlying problem to provide consistent, quality service that wasn't possible before. In the home we've had longest, we had to repeat this process several times as wiring has deteriorated due to rain and weathering. I've learned from experience that only independent ISPs (monkeybrains and Sonic) have the proper incentives to actually dig in and fix the problem. I fundamentally believe competition makes a healthier economy and gives people more choice. Isn't this idea one of the core tenets of American capitalism? Please keep local competitive carriers for me and my family. It's vital to us, and vital for my business. I need quality connectivity to do my job and since I switched to an independent ISP I get better service, more innovation (they are installing fiber much quicker than AT&T) and much fairer pricing. And when I call, someone actually picks up the phone and solves my problem, which was never the case with AT&T. Thanks so much!

Max Carlson