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

Dear FCC,

Please save competitive telecom.

I have chosen a local telecom provider over a national telecom, as I get great reliable person-to-person service at a reasonable rate, and live at a location that currently has connectivity through copper lines.

Ruling in favor of large national telecoms to dismantle components of the 1996 Telecommunications Act will reduce competition for these providers, with a significant impact on my local provider, and a possible loss in service.

Thank you,

Nathaniel Merriss