

July 12, 2016

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Business Data Services in an Internet Protocol Environment, WC Docket No. 16-143;
Special Access Rates for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 05-25

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

As an owner of Extra Touch Gifts, LLC, and home-based personalized gift company based in Galloway, Ohio, I know firsthand that business data services are critical to my success, but I also know that special access fee structures can be crushing for small-business owners. I am writing to urge the FCC to make a series of reforms, including capping prices, establishing new competitive triggers, and getting rid of old contracts with terms and conditions that unfairly limit competition.

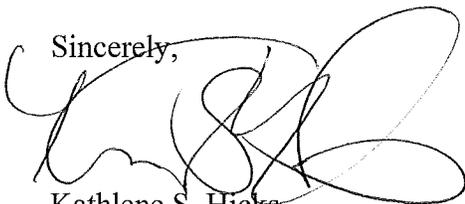
The Internet has always been about choice. Unfortunately, small business owners like me have had little to no real choice when it comes to business data services providers. This lack of choice limits innovation and provides little market restraint on price increases.

Small businesses are the lifeblood of a growing economy. My company must rely on dependable and affordable Internet and business data services to thrive. But excessive fees which are often hidden from consumers, amounts to billions of dollars that could be invested by entrepreneurs like myself to create jobs and add growth.

I urge the FCC to take necessary action to encourage competition to the business data service marketplace and help small businesses such as mine.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathlene S. Hicks', written over a light blue circular stamp.

Kathlene S. Hicks
Extra Touch Gifts, LLC
8111 Dellinger Road
Galloway, OH 43119