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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 Ajit Pai and the FCC,

Mr. Pai, you professed to want to increase broadband competition in the United States. I think we can all agree that this is a good goal.

Cutting off local internet providers in favor of multistate telecoms will have the opposite effect. This will harm local businesses. This will reduce access and competition. This will prompt large corporations like AT&T and Comcast to hike prices, because they will be the only game in town.

Our local ISP, Sonic, is just now bringing Fiber to our neighborhoods, a much needed boost to competition, to access, and to fair internet pricing. If you cut off CLECs like Sonic, you will end this competition. You will demonstrate that the FCC is the subject of regulatory capture, beholden only to the richest telecoms.

Do not end the leasing rule. Continue to empower ISPs like Sonic to continue leasing internet access and providing a source of competition. If you profess to want to increase broadband competition, you should be on the side of local CLECs like Sonic.

Robert Herreria