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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,

I am both a consumer and a small business owner that prizes other small businesses and competition between those small businesses as a well to continue to raise the bar on service provision.

I chose a competitive provider of broadband services because I wanted to pay less and get more. More customer service, more personalized options to meet my specific needs, more quality tailored to me.

I am writing to encourage you to continue to allow, via regulation, competitive broadband service. While I am a city dweller now, I haven't always been and I know how vital access to these services are for those who will most likely not have robust, if any, options if large broadband companies are allowed to monopolize through deregulation. I also remember the frustration of trying to hire a highly qualified remote worker who lived rurally who ultimately could not take the job because of the lack of broadband service from the big telephone company that did not provide service to them.

Access to information is a key pillar of a free and informed society, a voter pool that knows the issues, and a way for those who are disadvantaged to make gains in their lives. Pricing the people out of that access is unacceptable.

Please consider these points as you move forward.

Ari-Asha Castalia