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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,

If broadband competition is limited my internet access cost will skyrocket. As a senior citizen on a fixed income, I am finding all my utilities rapidly increasing in cost while my Social Security reflects little change. My electric bill has increased \$30 in 2 years, my water bill has increased \$50 in 2 years, my Social Security has barely increased at all.

As a senior, internet connectivity allows me to be more involved in the world around me. My provider has managed to not increase my cost for the last 10 years! With all the price hikes on my other essential utilities, a price hike on internet broadband would result in disconnecting me from my family, the world around me, and services which allow me to avoid driving. Broadband/fiber truly is a life line for many of us.

Additionally, having a local provider means I have someone who can answer questions, resolve problems, and generally help me with technical issues. I know from personal experience previously that the big companies do not care about their customers and don't hire locally to provide customer support. Keep our local jobs, don't create giant monopolies that outsource to India and other countries! Deregulation will push all those jobs overseas.

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