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Aug 29th 2018

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 use a competitive provider because they employ real people. when I phone them, a real person answers and talks with me. unlike the giant companies where mechanical voices announce choices, then lead us down phone trees that eventually revert back to their beginnings.

I use a competitive provider because that provider is local: hires local people, puts its profits back into our community, actually respects its customers--rather than lumping us into the bag of "valued customers."

I use a competitive provider because it keeps the cost of service reasonable. competition among providers encourages all to maintain reasonable charges. monopolies (and private arrangements among them) create higher prices and more profit to their bottom lines.

I hope you will work to maintain a free & open internet, one in which money isn't the dominating factor; ie, where the more I pay, the faster my service; and if I can't pay more, then my "service" slows & is more frequently interrupted.

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