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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,

As a consumer, I appreciate the competition between local and conglomerate telecom companies, because such an environment benefits me, often in the form of better customer service and prices. When only one option exists, the consumer suffers. I once lived in an area which only had Time Warner Cable as an option. I paid twice what I pay now and suffered through customer service that was barely civil. Moreover, internet access is no longer simply a luxury. For many, it's the conduit for earning a living. Price hikes will negatively impact millions of citizens while benefitting a few companies. Please do not let a handful of companies monopolize an entire industry. Please prioritize us, the consumers.

V. D.