

Kumar Plocher  
392 Bryce Canyon Rd  
San Rafael CA 94903

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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 USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

I use broadband at work to transmit tax returns (I am an Accountant). I use it at home to watch movies and educational materials with my kids. I use it at school to take my online courses at University of Alabama at Birmingham (working toward my Accounting degree). Without reliable and affordable broadband, my whole life falls apart.

I am aware that in other countries, broadband is faster, more developed and available, and cheaper than here. Unfortunately, the telecom providers in this country have decided to focus on un-leveling the playing field so they can exploit customer demand for maximum profit, without regard to the fact that we are falling behind in our connectivity behind Asia and other parts of the world.

Without healthy competition (including local providers like Sonic in my case), these greedy behemoths of the industry will do their best to turn us, their captive market customers, into their cash cows. That is unacceptable!

Please defend the democracy of the internet, and do not let it turn into an oligarchy of telecom giants.

Thank you.

Kumar Plocher