

R. Talla
6309 Van Nuys Blvd. Suite 206A
Van Nuys CA 91401

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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,

Clearly fast / affordable Internet is not a priority within the United States as it is with some other countries and that needs to change. It's ridiculous how slow and expensive it is in the USA... not to mention that there are very few alternatives to the mega-companies that basically have a monopoly on Internet service.

Internet is not a luxury; it is a necessity for every single one of us and there are still many people who are having to locate public libraries at very limited hours for an Internet connection because they simply cannot afford this service. Sad to say, I know of some students that literally perch on the sidewalk next to public libraries at night for their Internet connection.

I personally am on a very fixed income, a full-time student and it's a stretch every month to pay for basic Internet. Local consumers have no alternative other than the two providers in the Los Angeles area that are charging extremely high prices and randomly hike the price because they are being allowed to do so.

Just like mobile phones are no longer a luxury item, Internet service should also be considered a basic utility and a necessity for every person of any / all ages. Internet service has to be affordable for those of us that can not pay \$150+ monthly.

I opted for the lowest price Internet provider I could find within the Los Angeles / San Fernando Valley (Sonic) which still isn't low-cost enough but what choice do I have? The only alternative(s) are ATT or Verizon and they are double the price.

Thank you

R. Talla