

M McKenzie

El Cerrito CA

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

Dear FCC,

Several years ago, I made a conscious decision to choose a locally based phone and Internet provider that offered competitive pricing. I have been very pleased with the affordability and vastly superior service of my current provider.

**MORE COMPETITION ALLOWS CONSUMERS TO ABANDON  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS/BROADBAND MONOPOLIES THAT GOUGE CUSTOMERS  
WITH UNNECESSARY PRICE HIKES WHILE PROVIDING SUBSTANDARD SERVICE.**

Public and college libraries are helping to bridge the digital divide by providing access to broadband internet. This critical service is threatened as institutional budgets shrink and telecommunications costs continue to rise.

The FCC should be protecting the interests of consumers and helping to expand the reach of broadband service to all U.S. households regardless of income.

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