



The Honorable J. Kenneth Blackwell
801 G St. NW, Washington, DC 20001

August 30, 2018

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Applications of T-Mobile US, Inc. and Sprint Corporation, WT Docket No. 18-197

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Consistent with section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.206, I submit my attached public comment in support of the proposed transfer of control of Sprint Corporation to T-Mobile US, Inc.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Kenneth Blackwell".

J. Kenneth Blackwell
801 G St. NW
Washington, DC 20001

Attachment

CC: (via email)
Chairman Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner Brendan Carr
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel

Public Comment of The Honorable J. Kenneth Blackwell, Former Treasurer of State and Secretary of State of Ohio:

The T-Mobile/Sprint merger is a unique opportunity to benefit consumers and give America's businesses a competitive edge in the global marketplace.

T-Mobile has pledged to spend nearly \$40 billion to build a world-class delivery system for 5G in the first three years, which will generate countless thousands of American jobs, both directly and indirectly.

The robust new network would provide access to world-class technology to even the most rural consumers. To improve the rural customer experience, T-Mobile has also pledged a minimum of 600 new stores and up to 5 call centers located to serve rural areas and small towns. Every American deserves access to the personal and economic benefits of this exciting new technology.

Since 5G would eliminate the speed difference between mobile and in-home wired internet, millions of Americans would be free from the traditional and monopolistic local broadband providers. No longer will you or I have to deal with the only cable company in town, with high prices, inconvenient appointment windows, and terrible customer service.

However, the possibilities of 5G technology are beyond the imagination of myself or any government regulatory body. This isn't just about internet surfing and video streaming at lightning-fast, instantaneous speeds. It's about building intelligent cities, smart home appliances, cars which drive themselves, robotic automation, life-saving advances in medical technology, and other technological marvels that would sound today like "fake news."

Wireless internet development is one area where the economy needs more competition. If T-Mobile and Sprint are allowed to merge, there will be a company that competes with other tech giants - such as Verizon and AT&T - on a level playing field to ensure consumers from coast-to-coast get the best high-speed wireless internet at the lowest possible prices. T-Mobile has always determined its marketing and prices to be the disruptive "Un-carrier," but it needs this additional scale to continue providing value to consumers.

This new technological environment will also increase the competition needed to encourage development toward greater high-band spectrum speeds.

America cannot afford to cede global leadership on 5G and the associated 5G-dependent technology. To ensure America's economic success, regulators simply have to step out of the way.