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Aug 30th 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,

I'm writing in support of preserving the 1996 Telecommunications Act as it is, without making changes proposed in the May 4, 2018 USTelecom petition. After years of suffering shabby service with conglomerate Comcast, I was thrilled when I was able to purchase my home internet service from a local outfit: LMi.net in Berkeley. Comcast mistreated me, gave me wretched service, and why not? They had a monopoly in my neighborhood for years. With my local provider, I am happy with my service and I can spend my money supporting a business in my town, which employs local people. This is tremendously important right now when so many Americans have no choice except to purchase internet service from conglomerates. Please do not rule in favor of these monopoly-holding companies! Please side with the local guys. Doesn't big business get enough breaks?

Many thanks,

Julie Allen