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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,

I feel that competitive internet access, and telecom service is worth saving. This recent petition submitted to the FCC by the US Telecom Association, representing AT&T and other incumbents threatens all other competitive carriers.

I am speaking out to save competition today!

The bottom line: If the petition passes, it will eliminate the right of independent carriers to serve customers on copper lines, and to use fiber to connect their networks around the state. That would impair their ability to deploy viable competitive service.

I feel it is critical that we stand together to fight for competitive telecommunications. There is already too little competitive choice in internet access and telecom service, and if the petition is approved, independent carriers across the country will lose access to critical network elements, and consumers could lose their choice of providers.

I am leaving this public comment letting the FCC know that I value competitive choice and that I oppose the USTelecom petition.

Sincerely and respectfully

William Bauer