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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 am a consumer and small business owner who supports competition across the board, especially when it comes to broadband access. Where I live, I only have a choice between 2 non-competitive providers. If I want higher speeds, I'm forced to purchase a television bundle which I don't need. I work in technology, so having a solid high speed connection is critical for my business. Thanks goodness for sonic.net, who provides service that's so much better than AT&T or Comcast. Whenever I've had an issue with my line (happens every few years during the rains) AT&T insists nothing is wrong, slow speeds and scratchy lines are normal, even when they send someone out. I love Sonic because they will send a tech to meet with the AT&T tech to actually get the issue resolved, by proving with their measurement equipment that the line has in fact gone bad. If I was stuck with AT&T, I'd have zero chance getting this resolved. Not only that, but if I want fiber, the only people actually bothering to put the infrastructure in place are competitive providers, namely Sonic! Once they get fiber in my neighborhood, I'll have super high speeds for \$40/month. I already have the best possible DSL speeds, with phone and even fax service built into the price. AT&T and Comcast haven't and won't do this because it costs money and they make more profit selling substandard, slow services that don't require investments in new infrastructure. We need to maintain the competitive marketplace or people like me (and our economy) will suffer, all to fatten the wallets of a tiny number of huge ISPs who increasingly have the leverage to provide terrible service because there is less and less competition. Please, please please keep broadband competition in place!

Max Carlson