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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 concerned consumer who strongly supports broadband and telephone service competition. As a former customer of a large telephone service provider (who also provided DSL services), I became increasingly dissatisfied with my former provider raising the prices of internet and telephone services to an unacceptable level, in addition to providing poor customer service (e.g., long waits, slow response times, confusing charges).

Because I am fortunate to live in an area that supports broadband and telephone service competition, I was able to then choose a competitive provider (who just happened to be a local broadband provider) that offered very reasonable costs and excellent service for both internet access and telephone services. Their customer service is outstanding.

Please do not take away access to critical unbundled network elements for local broadband providers. We need competitive telecommunication laws to protect the consumer. Broadband and telephone service competition really does help the consumer obtain the best possible price/service and overall product.

Shinichi Kato