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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,

Competition is the backbone of our economy. You can argue against it all you want, but broadband access is essentially a utility at this point. Without it, I literally cannot do my job, and I can say the same for millions of Americans across the country. I use a local ISP because their rates are better, their service faster, and their customer service more responsive. When I had service through the major carriers, I'd often have up to 20% down time. As a freelancer, this critically impacted my business and cost me tens of thousands of dollars. IF I was able to speak to a representative, they'd just say I was out of luck. With my local provider, I'm up 99% of time, and when I do have problems, they get resolved quickly. Again, this is essential to my business, and if you remove competition you will be impacting my family. It is expensive to live in a city, and if I lose 20% of my business, we will have to move somewhere less expensive.

Competition is an essential part of the American economy. Do not destroy our economy.

Andrew Farkas