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Sep 5th 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,

It is critical to maintain competition. Monopolies or duopolies ensure that prices remain high and there is little incentive for broadband providers to install the latest technologies.

Smaller companies like Sonic, that is our broadband provider, have pushed the larger providers (e.g. AT&T) to deploy fiber to the node and to the home. Without this competition, there is no incentive for AT&T to upgrade their copper wire DSL technology.

Critical components of the 1996 Telecommunications Act that allows for continued competition in the marketplace must remain intact. The USA is far from the top of the league table of countries providing the fastest internet access to homes, and only competition between companies can raise this country's standing.

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