

Phil P
E 17th St.
Oakland CA 94606

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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 retired on a fixed income in a major metropolitan area where there is a third, local, and MUCH LESS EXPENSIVE alternative to the AT&T/Comcast axis (both of whom I used to have). My connection is ADSL, and I have a corded copper landline as well, which I prefer (it still works when the power goes out). It is not time yet to eliminate that alternative, especially for the sole purpose of profit and less competition.

I know well the history of the FCC and the way major telecommunication corporations have tried to sway it, dating back to the days of Sarnoff. The 1996 Act, while not at all perfect, was an attempt to rectify this, at least by allowing greater competition from smaller companies and start-ups, who often are far more responsive to their customers' needs, and provide better service and support. I have found this to be the case with my provider, Sonic.net in California.

Please recognize that there are many consumers, in many places and circumstances, who will be adversely affected, in both economics and connectivity, if the USTelecom petition is passed.

Thank you for putting consumers first.

Phil P