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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,

It is extremely important that my local independent ISP remain competitive so they can remain an alternative to the ISP behemoths that would otherwise implement a monopoly in ISP services (i.e. AT&T). In order to retain services and serve their customers my ISP needs to be able to rent bare copper lines from incumbent carriers, and to use spare fiber between cities.

These unbundled network elements are critical to my local ISP to deploy equipment and provide services, and to backhaul their gigabit fiber service.

The rights of smaller ISPs as outlined in the 1996 Telecommunications Act needs to stay in place! There is far too little choice of ISPs as it is, and weakening their rights will only remove more competition.

America is all about independent companies staying in healthy competition so that consumers benefit. Please don't allow this competition to be weakened. American Internet choice needs to be strengthened!!

The recent petition submitted to the FCC by the US Telecom Association, representing AT&T and other incumbents,
THREATENS my local ISP and all other competitive carriers. Please stand firm for competition!

Barbara Crawford