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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,

Congress and economists have known for over a century that free markets and competition is good for America and Americans. Monopolies harm both. The Telecom Act rightly understood the need for competition in the space and mandated that the FCC ensure that competition.

Whenever broadband competition was available in my market, I've always gone with the competitive provider. For example in Palo Alto I chose Sonic as my provider as they 1) offered better pricing than Comcast or ATT and 2) more flexible options in terms of plans and 3) most importantly the CEO Dane Jasper was willing to speak up on behalf of his customers to fight for competition in the market.

Now in San Francisco I have the choice of fiber from WebPass which has been a tremendously better option over ATT and Comcast. WebPass offers 100Mbps broadband with no term requirement, at about the same price as the competition which required monthly rental fees and a minimum 12 month term.

I have done business in Europe for years where I have seen the consumer benefits of true broadband competition: much higher bandwidth plans for much less money than consumers get in the USA. Why are we so behind other countries in this regard? Simple: the large providers like Comcast and Charter continue to have near monopolies on broadband service. The FCC should continue and even increase its efforts to enable competition and not give in to lobbyists from the incumbent near monopolies to continue to status quo, or worse go backwards.

It was encouraging to see Chairman Pai recently backdown under pressure to prevent the rubber stamping of the Sinclair deal. We need to see the same happen with the anti-consumer withdraw of Net Neutrality. It should be re-instated and strengthened. The FCC should work for the good of American consumers and markets, not for corporations and their desire for monopoly.

Joseph Weber