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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 switched to SONIC internet provider after over five years of having Xfinity Comcast internet. I stubbornly dealt with Comcast because I presumed that big-name brands had a patent on better internet. I was terribly wrong. I no longer have to worry about price hikes and having to constantly renegotiate my bill. Lastly with Comcast, my bill reached \$120 a month (for just internet) and my speeds actually got SLOWER. As these larger providers are fortifying their archaic model of 'television-phone' packaging, they are neglecting people like me that only needs reliable access to the World Wide Web. That's exactly what I think businesses like SONIC are trying to do.

In Oakland, CA, where I live, AT&T and Xfinity hold reign in broadband. Having SONIC as an option (among other startups) keeps the ever-increasing cost of living in the bay area lower. In addition, SONIC has provided the fastest speeds I've seen for a home. I quiver at knowing i've been missing out on this for the last five years. I hope to maintain this service as long as I'm in the bay area.

In places like East Oakland (and I presume most metropolitan areas), fiber internet is probably not coming any time soon. The level of infrastructure redevelopment needed is too grand. While a city is focusing on building new sports arenas or expensive condos, it makes one realize where priorities are set: consumerism. So why not allow the consumer to have more choices? The FCC has the power to take these choices away, which would be damaging to a community. I truly believe more people would use a third-party internet provider if they knew more about it. That's what kept me with Comcast for five years: ignorance. I did some research, made the switch, and now am kicking myself for not having done it sooner.

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