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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 USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

The internet is no longer just a luxury for the wealthy. It is a requirement in being able to live in a digital society. Many Americans are not well-to-do and rely on lower-cost carriers for the internet and phone service. I am retired and I go with a local carrier that depends on using infrastructure provided by big companies that have an unfair advantage with Congress because they can afford to lobby politicians to their advantage. Since I am retired, I live on a fixed income and have to watch my budget. Prices for goods and services keep going up due to mismanagement of the economy and the increasing deficit due to members of Congress slanting laws and regulations toward the wealthy instead of the majority of their constituents. Over 40 million people live below the poverty line. How many millions live at or just above the poverty line? These people are not represented by wealthy members of Congress or by Wall Street. The middle class is shrinking and falling into the ranks of the working poor. These people need the internet to be able to compete with the wealthy. I value the service that I receive from a lower-cost, local carrier. I already do without cable TV, a fancy smart phone, etc. Don't take the internet away from the majority of citizens just because bigger organizations want to eliminate their competition.

Mary Bosch