

*The School District of Haverford Township*  
MANOA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

101 South Manoa Road • Havertown, PA 19083 • 610-853-5940.

April 29, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED  
MAY 5 1997  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Chong,

As the middle school principal in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. With that connection, each student will be provided with distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 million a year will address the needs of our schools and, more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. The inclusion of internal classroom connections at a discount is vital. The plan is essential to prepare students for tomorrow's work force.

Passage of this Act will allow our computer use to connect our students to the world, not only technologically, but personally. We all know thinking globally will be important for the future of our state and our country. Connecting to the world through computers will help our students learn and understand issues on a world-wide basis. Being able to connect with our county library system will also give us access to additional learning materials quickly and easily. Our children's future and the future of every child in Pennsylvania will depend on this program.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

*Michael Walker*

Dr. Michael Walker

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*The School District of Haverford Township*  
**HAVERFORD HIGH SCHOOL**

200 Mill Road • Havertown, PA 19083 • 610-853-5905.

April 29, 1997

The Honorable Rachele B. Chong  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office in Philadelphia

Dear Commissioner Chong,

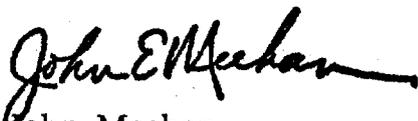
As the high school principal in the School District of Haverford Township, I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to education that will ensure Internet connection to every school student in Pennsylvania. This means all schools, including our own, along with the libraries in our communities, will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan guarantees that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. With that connection, each student will be provided with distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 million a year will address the needs of our schools and, more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. The inclusion of internal classroom connections at a discount is vital. The plan is essential to prepare students for tomorrow's work force.

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Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

  
John Meehan

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

96-45

**From:** Ed Magidson <magidson@ties.k12.mn.us>  
**To:** "rchong@fcc.gov" <rchong@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 5/5/97 11:45am  
**Subject:** Discount access for libraries

RECEIVED

MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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I feel it is important that libraries and other taxpayer-funded entities receive a significant discount on internet and data communications for the following two reasons.

1. Best way to keep taxes low is to spread the cost of public access to information uniformly over the entire spectrum-using community. Progressive taxation model.
2. People really depend on public libraries for information. Internet included. Most libraries I've been to will have to drop the Internet if they cannot figure out a better way to fund it. The Internet as currently constituted is too expensive to keep and too vital to drop. And many of the early-adopter "what is the Internet" grants are running out.

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The opinion stated in this message is not the opinion of the TIES organization.  
Heck, if I could get them to listen to me I wouldn't have to write to you.

---

Edward Magidson                      vox 612.638.2352  
Secure Network Engineering  
T.I.E.S.                                      fax 612.631.7519  
1925 W County Road B2              magidson@ties.k12.mn.us  
Roseville, MN 55113-2791          page 612.530.3528

"Technology Information and Educational Services Since 1967"

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

96-45

**From:** "Roy G. Toppino" <rtoppino@paradise-info.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(RCHONG)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 11:38am  
**Subject:** Universal Access Proposal

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MAY 5 1997

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I object to the FCC enacting the Universal Service proposal for the following reasons:

- 1) The FCC will implement a sweeping new tax before studying the alternatives (e.g., Net Day, access through existing state Internet networks).
- 2) The tax is structured to specifically punish Internet and online services and their subscribers. If the tax is necessary, it should be applied to all consumers and all businesses.
- 3) There has been insufficient study of the subject. There is little or no data to support the need for the tax, or to indicate whether the current proposal will be enough to do the job.
- 4) Allow the big push for volunteerism to help solve the problem. I operate a free BBS which offers internet access to all that want it. I'm sure that there are other like-minded individuals and organizations which can help fill this void rather than the government placing even more legislation and financial burden on the american people.

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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Sincerely,

Roy G. Toppino

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

96-45

**From:** Henry Gordon <hgordon@telis.org>  
**To:** A7.A7(RCHONG)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 11:33am  
**Subject:** Telecommunications discounts

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MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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Dear Commisioner Chong,

Please support the recommendations of the Federal-State Joint Board which called for discounts ranging from 20-90% on all types of telecommunications services. These services should include inside networks and cost of internet services. These discounts are necessary if we are to provide equal access to information for all Americans.

Thank you.

--

"When you absolutely, positively have to know, ask a librarian."

Henry Gordon(hgordon@telis.org)  
Library Media Teacher-Samuel Jackman Middle School  
Elk Grove Unified School District  
Sacramento, California

96-48  
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MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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DOCKET FILE COPY DUPLICATE

**From:** David Ayers <dayers@mail.rnet.com>  
**To:** J1.J1(FCCMAIL)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 11:26am  
**Subject:** Universal Service Proposal

Dear Chairman Hundt and FCC Commissioners:

As a very small Internet Service Provider providing dialup service for the Quincy, Illinois, area, I request that the Universal Service proposal not be passed for the following reasons.

1. Schools and low-income citizens are already being adequately served, at least in our area, and a subsidy will be counter-productive. Use of the Internet by all income groups is already expanding at a rate that makes it difficult for providers to service. with. Further growth incentives are not needed.
2. If a subsidy is required to extend Internet usage to lower income groups (an arguable proposition), the cost should be borne by a broad-based tax. The way I understand the current proposal, consumers and Internet Service Providers will bear the brunt of the cost. This is actually a disincentive to further growth of Internet usage by the population as a whole.

Please vote against the Universal Service proposal.

David Ayers, President  
RiverNet, Inc.  
301 Oak Street, Quincy, Illinois, 62301 (217) 224-3119

\*\*\*\*\*

David Ayers dayers@rnet.com

**CC:** A7.A7(jquello,sness,rchong)

96-45

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**From:** Joe Klemmer <klemmerj@webtrek.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(RHUNDT)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 11:09am  
**Subject:** "universal service" proposal

~~DOCKET FILE COPY DUPLICATE~~

MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Please consider carefully the ramifications of passing this proposal. If passed, it will have the opposite effect of what it's goals are by driving the local ISP's, who are the true backbone of the Internet, out of business. The vast majority of us do not have any real surplus of funds or income to be able to survive this proposal. There are alternatives to this plan that can bring about the same results without causing the damage to the network infrastructure. The Association of Online Professionals (AOP) would be a excellent resource for acquiring impartial information on this.

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Again, please consider carefully what you will be doing by passing this proposal.

Thank you,  
Joe Klemmer  
WebTrek L.L.C.  
Member: AOP

---

"It's a damn poor mind that can only think of one way to spell a word."  
-- Andrew Jackson

**CC:** A7.A7(JQUELLO, SNESS, RCHONG)

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MAY 5 1997

**From:** Robert McChesney <chezport@hotmail.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(rchong)  
**Date:** 5/2/97 9:36pm  
**Subject:** Support for "E-Rate"

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California Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioner,

This message is being sent to you from the California State PTA Convention being held here in San Jose, California from the Apple Booth at the Convention Center. Our names are Peggy Ellsworth, next year's PTA President and current School Site Council Member for Tumbleweed Elementary School in Palmdale, California, and Robert B. McChesney, current and next year's PTA Treasurer and also member of the School Site Council for the same school.

On behalf of Tumbleweed Elementary School, ourselves and our children, we wish to support the Joint Board's E-Rate recommendations. Being from an economically depressed district, and also from a school that has utilized grant funding to successfully educate our children on the use and capability of the new Information Superhighway and the machines that place them there, the ability to purchase more equipment and services at a reduced rate would mean a lot to us and greatly benefit our children and further their education.

Sincerely,  
Peggy Ellsworth and Robert B. McChesney

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96-45

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RECOMMENDATION

MAY 5 1997

**From:** <SandSCheng@aol.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(rchong)  
**Date:** 5/3/97 12:15am  
**Subject:** Joint Board Recommendation

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

I would like to see the school systems be allowed to have discounts toward upgraded telecommunications. I do however, disagree that each school should receive a discount based on the school's financial status. If this does in fact raise prices for consumers, I am against it too. Education is the key to the future and technology is rapidly increasing. Please do not vote the

"politically" correct vote, but that which would benefit society.

Michelle Cheng  
9180 Morning Walk Lane #202  
Cordova, TN 38018  
901-373-6045

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96-45

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**From:** John Patrick <patrick@us.ibm.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(rchong)  
**Date:** 5/3/97 10:10am  
**Subject:** I am in support of the E-rate provision

MAY 5 1997

I am in support of the E-rate provision of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Let's make it happen.

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

=====

John R. Patrick  
Ridgefield, CT

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**From:** <Wrestler65@aol.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(rchong)  
**Date:** 5/3/97 12:45pm  
**Subject:** Vote???

MAY 5 1997  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

VOTE YES for the E-Rate (money to go to the schools). I am a 14 year old Freshman at 71st High School (Cumberland County) in NC. I really think that our school needs these new sources (internet, etc.) to better educate and inform us. It's only fair that we receive this help as our school is falling behind on education from the web.

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96-48

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MAY 5 1997

**From:** PWOODWARD <santee@worldnet.att.net>  
**To:** A7.A7(rchong)  
**Date:** 5/4/97 8:41pm  
**Subject:** Discounts to Libraries

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

In the public interest, please vote to provide libraries with discounted telecommunications services.

Thank You,

P.Woodward  
Friends of the Santee Library

96-45

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MAY 5 1997

**From:** Cathy Bremer <premgr@sfpl.lib.ca.us>  
**To:** A7.A7(RCHONG)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 2:13am  
**Subject:** Discounted rates for libraries and schools

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Commissioner Chong: Please show concern for right to information for all citizens by voting for discounted telecommunications rates for libraries and schools. Free and equal access to information and knowledge are the hallmarks of a just and healthy society. Thank you.  
Catherine Bremer

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96-45

RECEIVED

MAY 5 1997

**From:** Cathy Bremer <premgr@sfpl.lib.ca.us>  
**To:** A7.A7(RCHONG)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 2:13am  
**Subject:** Discounted rates for libraries and schools

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Commissioner Chong: Please show concern for right to information for all citizens by voting for discounted telecommunications rates for libraries and schools. Free and equal access to information and knowledge are the hallmarks of a just and healthy society. Thank you.  
Catherine Bremer

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MAY 5 1997

**From:** Sherryl Cobb <scobb@enterprise.k12.ca.us>  
**To:** A7.A7(rchong)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 12:43am

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

I am writing to ask you to please support the Joint Boards recommendation to create the \$2.25 billion universal access fund for school technology. It is very important that our children keep up with the technology of the present and future. Thank you.

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96-48

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MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**From:** John Haas <jeho3@txdirect.net>  
**To:** A7.A7(rchong)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 8:33am  
**Subject:** Telecommunications Regulations and Telemedicine

DUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

>To: jquello@fcc.gov  
>From: jeho3@txdirect.net (John Haas)  
>Subject: Telecommunications Regulations and Telemedicine  
>Cc: rchong@fcc.gov sness@fcc.gov

>

>The Greater San Antonio Hospital Council would like to register its support for regulations that support universal service, in particular, regulations that would give rural providers access to telecommunication services at the same overall cost as given to urban health care providers.

>

>In Texas, there are 254 counties, with 184 of those counties with a population of less than 35,000. There are 61 counties that do not have hospitals. Many of those counties have one or two physicians or physician extenders in clinics supported by a rural hospital in a neighboring county.

Approximately 72% of Texas is rural. Access to health care in rural Texas is vital. The size of Texas and the great distances that must be travelled to receive care are in many instances prohibitive to access. Telemedicine has great potential to link rural providers with "tertiary" centers and medical centers. The opportunity for rural hospitals and health care providers to use telemedicine is limited by cost of obtaining the telecommunication services. Most hospitals simply can not afford the prohibitive costs of telecommunication lines and service. This is a barrier to access and quality of health care.

>

>There are many opportunities that telemedicine could serve rural Texas. Consultations with specialty providers could be conducted via telemedicine, which would allow the patient to remain in his/her community, receive the care and eliminate the expense and need to travel great distances.

Telemedicine has application in the area of emergency treatment. By linking rural emergency rooms with trauma centers, care can be rendered much more quickly, often with the result of lessening injury and shortening the recovery time. All of this is a savings of scarce health care dollars.

>

>By allowing economical access to telecommunications and telemedicine for rural hospitals, access, quality, and cost effectiveness can be achieved.

>

>The Greater San Antonio Hospital Council strongly supports universal service in support of distance charges. We also support toll-free access to the Internet. More and more business and information vital to the conduct of business is done over the internet. Health education can be done on the Internet, but without toll-free access, it too is cost prohibitive in rural Texas.

>

>Please feel free to contact the Greater San Antonio Hospital Council at any time. Our telephone number is 210-820-3500. You can reach me by e-mail at jeho3@txdirect.net.

>

>Thank you,

>

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

94-45

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MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**From:** Bill DiBerardino <wmd@vivanet.com>  
**To:** Eileen Duff <rchong@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 5/5/97 10:12am  
**Subject:** Universal Service Policy

DUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

May 5, 1997

Commissioner Rachelle Chong  
Federal Communications Commission

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I was just made aware that the Federal Communications Commission is due to vote soon on the 93 Universal Service 94 policy which is part of the implementation of the telecommunications act of 1996. Having been the CEO of a rural Hospital for 11 years now, I have become acutely aware, especially for the last three or four years, of the tremendous disadvantage we are at because of the inability to afford the long distance costs for telecommunications and telemedicine and the lack of local access to the internet. This puts us at a great disadvantage as against our urban counterparts and in the current world of managed care and capitation, the very survival of rural healthcare in this Country is in jeopardy.

I urge you to take whatever action is legally within your jurisdiction to allow us to purchase our telecommunications needs at a cost comparable to that available in the urban areas.

Sincerely,

William M. DiBerardino, FACHE  
President/CEO

WMD:ls

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MAY 5 1997

**From:** John A. Roska <jroska@fia.net>  
**To:** 'rhundt@fcc.gov' <rhundt@fcc.gov>  
**Date:** 5/5/97 10:33am  
**Subject:** Universal Service (Modem Tax) vote NO!

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Please vote NO! for the Universal Service proposal being considered. =  
Until all alternatives are evaluated you will be doing a dis-service to = the American public.

**CC:** 'jqello@fcc.gov' <jquello@fcc.gov>

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CC 96-48

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**From:** "Phil Moore" <phil@smla.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(RHUNDT,JQUELLO,SNESSE,RCHONG)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 10:50am  
**Subject:** I am opposed to the proposal regarding "Universal Service"

MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

On May 8, 1997, please vote against the proposal regarding "universal service" that subsidizes low-cost communication services for organizations and entities who might otherwise not be able to afford access to these services.

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**From:** BONNIE LEW --- CENTRAL PUBLIC SERVICES <LEWB05@STOCKTON.LIB.CA.US>  
**To:** A7.A7(RCHONG)  
**Date:** May 5, 1997 1:23pm  
**Subject:** Support Joint Board Recommendation CC96-45

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Commissioner Chong,

Greetings from your home town: Stockton, CA.

I am writing as a librarian who provides Internet services to students as well as to the general public in a state where money, as you well know, for libraries services in public schools, cities and counties have been shifted for other services. I encourage you to support the recommendations of the Federal-State Joint Board to allow for discounts to libraries and schools for all types of telecommunication services. Without the discounted cost of telecommunication services to eligible institutions, access will be limited. The high cost of these services prohibit the goals of schools and libraries to establish networks and to provide Internet access to those who cannot afford these essential tools of knowledge.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this issue.

Bonnie. C. Lew  
Stockton, CA.

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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

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MAY 5 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**From:** KBMILLER <KMILLER@miller-associates.com>  
**To:** A7.A7(rchong)  
**Date:** 5/5/97 12:04pm  
**Subject:** Net access for libraries and schools

BUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Commissioner Chong,

Please support heavy discounts for library and school access to the Internet. My great grandfather, Mr. Andrew Carnegie, provided 2509 free public libraries to communities here and worldwide following the idea that ready access to information, news, history, and literature are the cornerstones of a democratic society. These libraries have bettered the lives of more than 100 million people in the United States alone. Fair access to the Net is no less important. Information and communication have become the foundation of power in our land and should not be expensive to those who can afford it least. Please support the libraries and schools.

All best regards,

Kenneth Miller

-- Kenneth B. Miller  
E-mail: kmiller@miller-associates.com

Miller Associates, Inc.  
11 Burtis Avenue Suite 200  
New Canaan, CT 06840  
Tel: 203-972-0777  
Fax: 203-966-7547

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