SUNSHINE PERIOD

Information Technology Services
Telephone:716-888-2440
Fax:716-888-3223
Internet: cohen@canisius.edu

CANISIUS COLLEGE

2001 MAIN STREET • BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14208-1098

May 1, 1997

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

Re: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

Susan Ness, Commissioner
FCC

Dear Commissioner Ness:

This is to register our extreme concern about the proposal to increase Subscriber Line Charges (SLC), Pre-subscriber line surcharges (PSL), and the "universal service social agenda obligation fee" for cellular, PCS, and paging services. Such charges will increase the cost of performing scholarly work for students and faculty. The cost of doing business for everyone at the College will increase. The College and its constituencies cannot afford these increases. We do not want these charges to be implemented.

We are also concerned about the proposal to reduce Interstate access charges. The College shares this revenue with its telephone provider. This is an important source of revenue for the College, and helps minimize the net cost of providing voice and data services to Canisius faculty, students, and staff. We want to keep these Interstate access charges at their current levels.

Sincerely,

Joel A. Cohen, Ph. D.
Director of Information Technology Services

MAY 1 5 48 PM '97
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS
RECEIVED

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Michigan Technological University

1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, Michigan 49931-1295

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Office of the Executive Vice President
and Provost
Phone: 906/487-2440
FAX: 906/487-2935

May 2, 1997

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Commissioner James E. Quello
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness

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MAY 5 9 57 AM '97

Federal Communications Commissions
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Reference: "Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262"

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

It has come to our attention that the FCC may approve significant increases in telephone Subscriber Line Charges (SLC) and Pre-Subscriber Line surcharges (PSLC) for multi-line business customers plus levy a "universal service social agenda obligation fee" for Cellular, PCS, and Paging services. Colleges and universities affected by these increases will in effect be major players in underwriting the FCC costs to implement requirements of the 1996 Telecommunications ACT for discounted telecommunications services to K-12 schools, libraries, rural health facilities, and lifeline services.

Universal telecommunications access for every citizen is an important national goal, and a Universal Service Fund may be needed to accomplish this worthy goal. While the end result of these charges has merit, the FCC must consider the impact of these increases on Higher Education Institutions, especially publicly-funded institutions.

We would encourage the Commission to review the impact of the proposed changes and the financial implications for Higher Education Institutions. It should be remembered that increased charges on the general business public eventually find their way back to the consumer and to Higher Education Institutions in the form of higher costs for goods and services.

The impact of the proposed increases at Michigan Tech is estimated to be over $288,000 annually. We cannot afford to absorb this increase without raising tuition/fees or jeopardizing other programs and services at the University.

The affordability of a college education is already a struggle for many. We hope that you will not inadvertently rob higher education or make it inaccessible in order to benefit K-12 schools, libraries, rural health facilities and lifeline services.

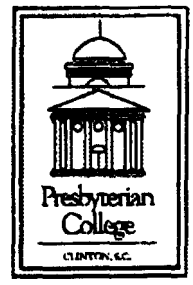
Sincerely,

Fredrick J. Dobney

Fredrick J. Dobney
Executive Vice President and Provost

cc: Senator Carl Levin
Senator Spencer Abraham
Congressman Bart Stupak
Brian Moir, Attorney
Jeri Semer, Executive Director, ACUTA
Jim Cross, Vice Provost for Information Technology, MTU

SUNSHINE PERIOD



May 1, 1997

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MAY 6 1997
Data Processing Division

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OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS
MAY 1 5 48 11 '97

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

via FAX 202-418-2821

RE: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Ness:

Presbyterian College is greatly concerned by reports of possible increases in the cap on business multi-line Subscriber Line Charges (SLC) and pre-subscribed lines (PSL) surcharges. One report indicated the possibility of an increase of $8.00 per month charge for each business line including each Centrex line. Such a charge, depending on how implemented, could cost Presbyterian College more than $8,000.00 per month: the equivalent of more than five full scholarships including tuition, fees, room, and board. Or, looking at it another way, this would represent an increase of almost 33% in our local telephone service bill.

We certainly hope that the commission rejects any such ideas.

The provision of discounted telecommunications services for K-12 schools, libraries, and rural health facilities may be a worthwhile public policy goal but if so it should be funded directly by Congress, not in this manner.

Presbyterian College is certainly not alone among institutions of higher education using Centrex services. Any proposal that increases fees for businesses also affects colleges, universities, and other non profits which must purchase business telephone services.

Thank you for considering our position on this matter. Once again we hope that discounted telecommunication services for K-12 schools, libraries, and rural health facilities would not be subsidized through increases in business telephone fees that feed the Universal Service Fund.

Sincerely,

Morris M. Galloway Jr.
Dean of Administrative Services

MMG:jwc

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Information Technology Services
*Telephone:*716-888-2440
*Fax:*716-888-3223
Internet: *cohen@canisius.edu*

CANISIUS COLLEGE

2001 MAIN STREET • BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14208-1098

May 1, 1997

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Re: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

Susan Ness, Commissioner
FCC

Dear Commissioner Ness:

This is to register our extreme concern about the proposal to increase Subscriber Line Charges (SLC), Pre-subscriber line surcharges (PSL), and the "universal service social agenda obligation fee" for cellular, PCS, and paging services. Such charges will increase the cost of performing scholarly work for students and faculty. The cost of doing business for everyone at the College will increase. The College and its constituencies cannot afford these increases. We do not want these charges to be implemented.

We are also concerned about the proposal to reduce Interstate access charges. The College shares this revenue with its telephone provider. This is an important source of revenue for the College, and helps minimize the net cost of providing voice and data services to Canisius faculty, students, and staff. We want to keep these Interstate access charges at their current levels.

Sincerely,

Joel A. Cohen, Ph. D.
Director of Information Technology Services

MAY 1 5 46 PM '97
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS
RECEIVED

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SUNSHINE PERIOD

2237 Saratoga Drive
Findlay, Ohio 45840
April 28, 1997

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997
Federal Communications Commission

Ms. Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N W
Washington, D. C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Communications in CC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Ms. Ness,

The purpose of my letter is to register my very strong opposition to the proposed FCC regulations concerning multi-line users. While your goal of wiring public schools, libraries and rural health care agencies to the Internet is noble, the $3 billion cost should not be directed to businesses. Instead local authorities or school districts should pursue this if they deem it to be necessary. The proposed regulations are essentially a social program that has never ever been brought to the voters.

I have written my Senators and Congressman as well to ensure that they are aware of my strong opposition to these proposed regulations. I sincerely hope that you will seriously consider abandoning these very costly regulations that the consumers of goods and services will ultimately have to pay.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Giroux

Richard F. Giroux

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER
SUSAN NESS
MAY 1 4 23 PM '97

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Jerilyn S. McIntyre
Interim President

RECEIVED
APR 30 1997
MAY 6 1997

April 30, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20054
Via Fax (202) 418-2821

Re: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262
Priority: Urgent (FCC to vote on proposal May 6, 1977)

Dear Commissioner Ness:

It has come to the attention of the University of Utah that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is considering a proposal that will target multi-line business customers as a resource to support an initiative to upgrade the internal wiring and network accessibility of public K-12 schools and libraries, access to the network for rural health care facilities, and increase lifeline services.

As a higher education institution with a six-hundred-bed teaching hospital and the home of the Utah Education Network responsible for supporting distance learning throughout the entire state of Utah, we fully recognize the importance of this initiative. However, as a 12,000-line Centrex customer, the proposed method of funding would likely be the undoing of our own communication infrastructure.

It is our understanding that the Chairman of the FCC is considering the following increases:

- The cap on business multi-line Subscriber Line Charges (SLC) may be raised from $6.00 per line to $9.50 per line per month, including Centrex lines.

- A Pre-Subscribed Line (PSL) surcharge will be imposed on business users. The charge is anticipated to be $4.50 per multi-line business line. The $4.50 per month charge would also apply to each Centrex line.

Office of the President
203 Park Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112
(801) 581-5701
FAX (801) 581-6892

- The Salt Lake City cap on second residential lines may be raised from $3.50 to $6.00 per month. This will affect University employees and students who telecommute.

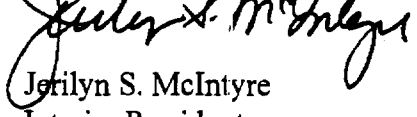
- Cellular, PCS, and paging customers may be assessed a $1.00 fee per telephone number per month.

If these rate increases are approved, the annual impact to the University of Utah will exceed $1,152,000. This amount is greater than our total annual budget for campus networking and infrastructure renovation, thereby rendering helpless the very institution that is responsible for supporting K-12 distance learning and rural health care services in Utah.

In addition to the proposed increases, the University of Utah also stands to lose an additional $78,000 per year of revenue if the Interstate access charges are cut by 40 to 50 percent as proposed by the FCC.

Due to the disproportionate share of responsibility the proposed plan places on the University of Utah, in an effort to accomplish the universal service social agenda, I strongly encourage you help us convince the Chairman of the FCC to reconsider his proposed plan and seek more equitable means of funding.

Sincerely,



Jerilyn S. McIntyre
Interim President

JSM/lm

cc: Thomas G. Nycum, Vice President for Administrative Services

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Payless Cashways, Inc.

We work to make your job easier.℠

PAYLESS CASHWAYS
FURROW
LUMBERJACK
HUGH M. WOODS
SOMERVILLE LUMBER
KNOX LUMBER

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

May 1, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: ExParte Communication in DCC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Susan Ness:

I am writing to express Payless Cashways Inc 's concern about the possible Federal Communications Commission action which could substantially raise our telephone bills. Our information is that the Commission will vote May 6 on, among other things, the imposition of a "Fair and Equitable Rate Charge" of $4.50 per month beginning this coming January, which would increase to $6.00 per month next year, and the increase of the local exchange company's "Subscriber Line Charge" of $3.50, to be used to wire schools and libraries for the Internet.

We do not question the wisdom of wiring schools and libraries, and we had no objection to its inclusion in the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Rather, we question the manner in which this new charge is to be levied, and the fact that the Commission has to our knowledge not determined how the money might best be distributed. Reliable studies have shown that business customers are already overcharged significantly by their local telephone companies, and we wonder why that money would not be used to accomplish the worthy goal of wiring schools and libraries.

If these charges are instituted, the impact on us would be substantial, because Payless Cashways Inc. has 4180 telephone lines, resulting in yearly surcharges of $403,440.00. We consider this surcharge to be unduly burdensome, and we cannot imagine that this charge reflects the intent of Congress when it acted to bring advanced technology to America's classrooms.

We ask you to consider the effect that such a proposal would have on retailers, who are increasingly reliant on telecommunications in the routine management of their business. We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Stanton

Susan M. Stanton
President and COO
Payless Cashways Inc.

TWO PERSHING SQUARE • P.O. BOX 419466 • KANSAS CITY, MO 64141-0466 • (816) 234-6000

Presbyterian College
CLINTON, S.C.

SUNSHINE PERIOD

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OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER SINGER
MAY 2 11 16 AM '97
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MAY 6 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

May 1, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

via FAX 202-418-2821

RE: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Ness:

Presbyterian College is greatly concerned by reports of possible increases in the cap on business multi-line Subscriber Line Charges (SLC) and pre-subscribed lines (PSL) surcharges. One report indicated the possibility of an increase of $8.00 per month charge for each business line including each Centrex line. Such a charge, depending on how implemented, could cost Presbyterian College more than $8,000.00 per month: the equivalent of more than five full scholarships including tuition, fees, room, and board. Or, looking at it another way, this would represent an increase of almost 33% in our local telephone service bill.

We certainly hope that the commission rejects any such ideas.

The provision of discounted telecommunications services for K-12 schools, libraries, and rural health facilities may be a worthwhile public policy goal but if so it should be funded directly by Congress, not in this manner.

Presbyterian College is certainly not alone among institutions of higher education using Centrex services. Any proposal that increases fees for businesses also affects colleges, universities, and other non profits which must purchase business telephone services.

Thank you for considering our position on this matter. Once again we hope that discounted telecommunication services for K-12 schools, libraries, and rural health facilities would not be subsidized through increases in business telephone fees that feed the Universal Service Fund.

Sincerely,

Morris M. Galloway Jr.
Dean of Administrative Services

MMG:jwc

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

SUNSHINE PERIOD

1530 Concordia West • Irvine, California 92612-3299
714-854-8002

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

April 29, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Ness,

Recently Concordia University became aware of a proposal that would significantly increase Subscriber Line Charges (SLC) for multi-line customers. As an administrator of a private, Liberal Arts university, I must inform you that our administration is very much opposed to the proposed increases. During an era in which colleges and universities are being challenged to stop increasing tuition, the proposed SLC increase would significantly impact an already tight budget.

Although Concordia University is certainly empathic to the need to provide telecommunications for public K-12 schools, we request that the revenue for that project be generated in a different venue.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Cordially,

Dr. Mary Holl

Dr. Mary Holl
Vice President
Dean of University Services

Post-it® Fax Note 7671	Date	# of pages ▶
To Commissioner Susan Ness	From Mary Holl	
Co./Dept.	Co.	
Phone #	Phone #	
Fax #	Fax #	

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER SUSAN NESS
APR 29 3 23 PM '97

St. Louis Community College

Joseph P. Cosand Community College Center
300 South Broadway
St. Louis, MO 63102-2810
314/539-5000 • FAX 314/539-5170

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MAY 6 1997 SUNSHINE PERIOD

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC. 20554

March 29, 1997

Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

St. Louis Community is aware that the Federal Communications Commission is considering proposals that would target multi-line business customers with major increases in Subscriber Line Charges (SLC). Other charges that you are considering include presubscribed line (PSL) surcharges, "universal service social agenda obligation" fees for Cellular, PCS, and Paging companies, and finally a increase in the SLC cap on second residential lines. This revenue is planned to subsidize inside wiring and access to the network for public K-12 schools and libraries, access to the network for rural health care facilities, and increases in lifeline service.

While the end result of these charges has merit, the FCC must also consider the Higher Educational Institution, especially public funded, when looking at the economic impact of these plans. The impact of SLC and PSL charges for St. Louis Community College for trunk lines alone will increase our annual communications expense by nearly $20,000 annually. This doesn't count the pass through costs for paging and cellular services which have not been calculated at this point. Bottom line, these proposed increases would amount to 54% of our current annual line expenditure for access to our Internet provider.

These increases also offset decreases in line charges that were ordered by the Missouri Public Service Commission for educational institutions being serviced by Southwestern Bell Telephone. The savings which were considerable, were used to fund our access expenses for Internet service and to provide dial up service to the Internet.

I would encourage the Commission to review the impact of these proposed changes on Higher Educational Institutions. It should be remembered that increasing charges on the general business public eventually finds its way back to the consumer and to the Higher Educational Institutions in the form of higher charges for goods and services. Let's look at the current profit levels of communications providers. Obviously Southwestern Bell had sufficient profit to provide relief for all Missouri educational institutions in their service area. Why can't others do the same?

A college education is already a struggle for many. Let's not add more expense to the Higher Educational public institutions who are providing educational opportunity for the masses.

Sincerely

John P. Canavera

Manager, Telecommunications & Engineering

cc: Brian Moir
Jeri Semer, ACUTA
Dave Goslik, SLCC
Pat Donohue, SLCC
Gary Jones, SLCC

APR 29 3 23 PM '97

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
COMMISSIONER

Aluminum Company of America **SUNSHINE PERIOD** ALCOA

Russell C. Wisor
Director, Government Affairs

April 30, 1997

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MAY 6 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

APR 30 2 07 PM '97
RECEIVED
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER SUSAN NESS

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554
Fax: (202) 418-2821

RE: EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS IN CC DOCKET NO. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Ness:

Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) is the world's leading producer of aluminum and alumina. It serves customers in the packaging, automotive, aerospace, construction and other markets, and operates 178 locations in 28 countries. Alcoa appreciates the opportunity to express its concern over the potential negative impact that CC Docket No.96-262 could have on its U.S. operations.

We have been advised that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) plans to increase the Multi-line Subscriber Line Charge (SLC) by $3.50 per line and couple that increase with an additional, new multi-line customer charge of $4.50 per line. If implemented, the additional cost of these two proposals to Alcoa would exceed $1,000,000 annually. We are opposed to enhancing local exchange revenues by increasing the operating costs of corporations because it is both counterproductive and treats customers in an unequal manner.

Alcoa has been working diligently and successfully to reduce its operating costs so that it remains a leader in the highly competitive world aluminum industry. The new costs that could be levied on Alcoa as a result of your proposed charges cited above are excessive. When applied to each station of a Centrex system as employed by Alcoa, it also provides an unfair competitive advantage to companies that utilize premise based telephone systems.

We urge you to reject these proposed charges. Thank you for the opportunity to present these views.

Sincerely,

Russell C. Wisor

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

To: Commissioner Susan Ness 4/23/97

From: John R Morris - Director of Telecommunications

While I applaud the Commissions proposal to raise money to bring the net to public schools (k thru `12) and libraries; I must beg you to make higher education exempt from this increase. . As a state agency with a fixed budget the only way I'm going to be able to absorb this substantial increase is to forgo our plans to wire the residence halls for the net. It's really a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul and in this case a lot of the Peters are future teachers that will be teaching the Pauls how to use the net.

Thank you for your consideration.

CC Brian Moir
Jeri Semer

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
Salisbury, Maryland 21801-6837
(410) 543-6215 ■ TTY (410) 543-6083 ■ FAX (410) 543-6221

Boston University

Office of Telecommunications
25 Buick Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
Tel: 617/353-2097
Fax: 617/353-2053

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OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER
MAY 5 2 02 PM '97

SUNSHINE PERIOD

A Unit of Information Technology

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

May 2, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Regarding Ex Parte Communications in CC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Ness,

I have become aware of an FCC Universal Service Fund/Access Charge proposal which amongst other things funds the initiative to wire America's schools and libraries to the internet via new "surcharges" on America's telecommunication systems. It is an alarming proposal and would have severe impact on American business! I have calculated the budget impact for Boston University next fiscal year to be approximately **$1,200,000** if this proposal is passed. This amongst other things will curtail our efforts to wire our own dorms.

Apparently, this proposal creates new interstate charges (FERC) of $4.50 per line per month and raises the subscriber line charge (SLC) from a cap of $6.00 to $9.50. While I understand carriers would provide some flow because of lower pre minute access charges, this would have a positive impact of only $50,000 a year or .004% of the total increase. This is hardly an off-set to balance the scale. Last year we were promised lower rates. What happened along the way, and how does it make sense to generate about a $3 billion dollar fund solely from business; a virtual tax on our communications lines, which are not cost-based to begin with? What about the excessive "subsidies" still going to LEC accounts which translate into higher profits for them? Why is it that this proposal, which will obviously have serious negative impact on American business, so suddenly surfaced? This letter seeks your support to vote against this proposal and re-think the entire issue and come up with something that makes sense.

To make matters worse, the proposal taxes Centrex lines more than PBX lines. Rather than using a PBX-equivalent formula, the proposal would apply the charges to each one of our administrative lines. The effect of this discriminatory method is that Boston University would be paying 85%; more than a university across the river from us who has the same switch but it sits on their premises. They would pay 15% (on the trunks only). It doesn't make sense. It would kill Centrex as a violable option. Also, if the proposal were to treat student lines as business lines, the effect to BU would cost us an additional 40% of $1,200,000. From any perspective I look at it, it just becomes more and more awful.

Please reconsider this proposal. While I admire the Commissions ambitiousness and commitment to the Internet project, this manner of funding would saddle small and large businesses with the entire burden. The economic effects of this would be disastrous. Instead of expanding America's telecommunication systems, if this proposal were to pass, the system would contract as company after company began to remove lines. Please do not vote in support of this proposal.

In closing, please feel free to call me at 617-353-7432 if I can provide any additional information to help clarify the budgetary issues and the negative effects of this proposal at Boston University.

Sincerely yours,

James A. Shea - Director

CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY

1530 Concordia West • Irvine, California 92612-3299
714-854-8002

SUNSHINE PERIOD

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER SUSAN NESS

MAY 5 2 50 PM '97

RECEIVED

MAY 6 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 29, 1997

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Ness,

Recently Concordia University became aware of a proposal that would significantly increase Subscriber Line Charges (SLC) for multi-line customers. As an administrator of a private, Liberal Arts university, I must inform you that our administration is very much opposed to the proposed increases. During an era in which colleges and universities are being challenged to stop increasing tuition, the proposed SLC increase would significantly impact an already tight budget.

Although Concordia University is certainly empathic to the need to provide telecommunications for public K-12 schools, we request that the revenue for that project be generated in a different venue.

We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Cordially,

Dr. Mary Hoh

Dr. Mary Hoh
Vice President
Dean of University Services

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Jerilyn S. McIntyre
Interim President

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MAY 6 1997

April 30, 1997

Commissioner James E. Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554
Via Fax (202) 418-2802

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Re: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262
Priority: Urgent (FCC to vote on proposal May 6, 1977)

Dear Commissioner Quello:

It has come to the attention of the University of Utah that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is considering a proposal that will target multi-line business customers as a resource to support an initiative to upgrade the internal wiring and network accessibility of public K-12 schools and libraries, access to the network for rural health care facilities, and increase lifeline services.

As a higher education institution with a six-hundred-bed teaching hospital and the home of the Utah Education Network responsible for supporting distance learning throughout the entire state of Utah, we fully recognize the importance of this initiative. However, as a 12,000-line Centrex customer, the proposed method of funding would likely be the undoing of our own communication infrastructure.

It is our understanding that the Chairman of the FCC is considering the following increases:

- The cap on business multi-line Subscriber Line Charges (SLC) may be raised from $6.00 per line to $9.50 per line per month, including Centrex lines.

- A Pre-Subscribed Line (PSL) surcharge will be imposed on business users. The charge is anticipated to be $4.50 per multi-line business line. The $4.50 per month charge would also apply to each Centrex line.

Office of the President
203 Park Building
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112
(801) 581-5701
FAX (801) 581-6892

- The Salt Lake City cap on second residential lines may be raised from $3.50 to $6.00 per month. This will affect University employees and students who telecommute.

- Cellular, PCS, and paging customers may be assessed a $1.00 fee per telephone number per month.

If these rate increases are approved, the annual impact to the University of Utah will exceed $1,152,000. This amount is greater than our total annual budget for campus networking and infrastructure renovation, thereby rendering helpless the very institution that is responsible for supporting K-12 distance learning and rural health care services in Utah.

In addition to the proposed increases, the University of Utah also stands to lose an additional $78,000 per year of revenue if the Interstate access charges are cut by 40 to 50 percent as proposed by the FCC.

Due to the disproportionate share of responsibility the proposed plan places on the University of Utah, in an effort to accomplish the universal service social agenda, I strongly encourage you help us convince the Chairman of the FCC to reconsider his proposed plan and seek more equitable means of funding.

Sincerely,

Jerilyn S. McIntyre
Interim President

JSM/lm

cc: Thomas G. Nycum, Vice President for Administrative Services

CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY

1530 CONCORDIA WEST • IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92612-3299
714-854-8002

RECEIVED
MAY 5 4 31 PM '97
MAY 6 1997
SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 29, 1997

Commissioner James E. Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262

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We appreciate your consideration of this request.

Cordially,

Dr. Mary Hull

Dr. Mary Hull
Vice President
Dean of University Services

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Boston University

Office of Telecommunications
25 Buick Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
Tel: 617/353-2097
Fax: 617/353-2053

A Unit of Information Technology

May 2, 1997

Commissioner James E. Quello
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

Regarding Ex Parte Communications in CC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Quello,

I have become aware of an FCC Universal Service Fund/Access Charge proposal which amongst other things funds the initiative to wire America's schools and libraries to the internet via new "surcharges" on America's telecommunication systems. It is an alarming proposal and would have severe impact on American business! I have calculated the budget impact for Boston University next fiscal year to be approximately **$1,200,000** if this proposal is passed. This amongst other things will curtail our efforts to wire our own dorms.

Apparently, this proposal creates new interstate charges (FERC) of $4.50 per line per month and raises the subscriber line charge (SLC) from a cap of $6.00 to $9.50. While I understand carriers would provide some flow because of lower pre minute access charges, this would have a positive impact of only $50,000 a year or .004% of the total increase. This is hardly an off-set to balance the scale. Last year we were promised lower rates. What happened along the way, and how does it make sense to generate about a $3 billion dollar fund solely from business; a virtual tax on our communications lines, which are not cost-based to begin with? What about the excessive "subsidies" still going to LEC accounts which translate into higher profits for them? Why is it that this proposal, which will obviously have serious negative impact on American business, so suddenly surfaced? This letter seeks your support to vote against this proposal and re-think the entire issue and come up with something that makes sense.

To make matters worse, the proposal taxes Centrex lines more than PBX lines. Rather than using a PBX-equivalent formula, the proposal would apply the charges to each one of our administrative lines. The effect of this discriminatory method is that Boston University would be paying 85%; more than a university across the river from us who has the same switch but it sits on their premises. They would pay 15% (on the trunks only). It doesn't make sense. It would kill Centrex as a violable option. Also, if the proposal were to treat student lines as business lines, the effect to BU would cost us an additional 40% of $1,200,000. From any perspective I look at it, it just becomes more and more awful.

Please reconsider this proposal. While I admire the Commissions ambitiousness and commitment to the Internet project, this manner of funding would saddle small and large businesses with the entire burden . The economic effects of this would be disastrous. Instead of expanding America's telecommunication systems, if this proposal were to pass, the system would contract as company after company began to remove lines. Please do not vote in support of this proposal.

In closing, please feel free to call me at 617-353-7432 if I can provide any additional information to help clarify the budgetary issues and the negative effects of this proposal at Boston University.

Sincerely yours,

James A. Shea - Director

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Virginia Tech
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

Earving L. Blythe
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May 6, 1997

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Commissioner James E. Quello
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Reference: lEx Parte Communication in CC Docket No. 96-262l

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

It has come to our attention that the FCC may approve a significant increase in the telephone Subscriber Line Charge (SLC) and impose a new Pre-Subscriber Line surcharge (PSLC) for multi-line business customers. These fees would be used to subsidize telecommunications services to K-12 public schools, libraries, and rural health facilities through the Universal Service Fund. Universities are required to purchase business telephone services. Therefore, higher education institutions will, in effect, underwrite the costs to provide these services to other agencies.

Telecommunications access for every citizen is an important national goal and a Universal Service Fund may be needed to accomplish it. However, the FCC must also consider the impact of these proposed charges on communications costs paid by higher education institutions. At Virginia Tech, our annual costs would increase by at least $120,000 on our main campus and by an unknown amount for Extension Office locations throughout our state.

We would encourage the Commission to review the impact of the proposed changes and the financial implications for higher education institutions before making a final ruling. Thank you for considering our position on this matter.

Sincerely,

Earving L. Blythe
Vice President, Information Systems

cc: Senator Charles S. Robb
Senator John W. Warner
Congressman Rick C. Boucher
Dr. Paul E. Torgersen, President, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Mr. Ralph Byers, Director of Government Relations, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Mr. Brian Moir, Attorney
Ms. Jeri Semer, Executive Director, ACUTA

In addition to Congressman Hastert, this letter was sent to the following Members of the House and Senate Commerce Committees:

The Honorable Greg Ganske

The Honorable Scott Klug

The Honorable Richard M. Burr

The Honorable John Shimkus

The Honorable John Ashcroft

The Honorable Sam Brownback

SUNSHINE PERIOD

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Fax

To: Reed E. Hundt, Chairman, Federal Communications Commission

From: Charlene Evans, director of Telecommunications and Computing Support

Fax: 202.418.2801 **Pages:** 1

Phone: **Date:** May 6, 1997

Re: **Ex Parte Communication in CC Docket NO. 96-262**

CC: James E. Quello, Commissioner **202.418.2802**

Rachelle B. Chong, Commission **202.418.2820**

Susan Ness, Commissioner **202.418.2821**

Brian Moir, Atty. ACUTA **606.278.3268**

Jeri Semer, ACUTA, **606.278.3268**

x **Urgent** ☐ **For Review** ☐ **Please Comment** ☐ **Please Reply** ☐ **Please Recycle**

• **Comments:**

As presently constructed the proposal referenced above would significantly increase the cost of telecommunications services for our institution. As proposed, these changes could increase our monthly telephone charges by as much as 50%. If enacted, this proposal could increase our current operational budget by over $75,000 per year. Although our use of cellular and paging units is limited at present, our multi-campus environment will require increased us of these devices. The budget impact referenced above does not take into account the increases proposed in the wireless service unit areas.

This proposal, aimed at providing discounted telecommunications services for K-12 schools, libraries and rural health facilities should be carefully considered. The intent of the proposal would be seriously compromised if the access provided at these institutions caused an equal and opposite scenario at institutions of higher education. The net effect might well be in direct opposition to the total purpose of providing accessibility to higher education through distance learning and expanded student access to knowledge bases through out the world.

May 6, 1997

Second residential lines have become a desirable component in the total plan of time and place independent learning. The proposal to raise the SLC cap on second residential lines does not encourage individual faculty initiative and could represent an additional burden for students involved in distance learning classes.

You are encouraged to look carefully at the possible adverse effects this proposal could have, and explore solutions that could produce the desired results without placing an increased finical burden on institutions of higher education.

Ralston Purina Company

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May 2, 1995

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *ExParte* Communications in CC Docket No. 96-262

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am writing to express Ralston Purina Company's opposition to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proposal to substantially raise the telephone bills on multi-line telephone users -- primarily businesses -- when reforming it rules on May 6th regarding universal service and interstate access charges in light of the new telecommunications law passed by Congress last year.

This proposal would increase the multi-line business subscriber line charge cap from $6 to $9.50 per line per month, create a new charge for each pre-subscribed telephone line of $4.50 per line per month, and increase the cost of dedicated access by $400 million. These increases combined, would result in approximately a $250,000 per year increase in telecommunications costs for Ralston Purina. Only a small portion of these increases would be offset by lower long distance savings.

When the new telecommunications act became law 14 months ago, we applauded the bold predictions regarding local telephone competition and lower rates. While it will take a number of years before meaningful levels of competition become available, it now appears that the FCC leadership is proposing to raise, not lower, the telecommunications costs of American business. We do not question the goal of wiring schools and libraries. Rather, we question the manner in which the charge is to be levied and the fact that it is being levied on business customers who are already being overcharged for their telephone services.

At a time when American business is trying to compete at home and abroad, it makes no sense for the FCC single out those same businesses with higher telecommunications costs. When considering proposals to reform universal service and interstate access charge rules, we urge you to reject any direct or indirect end user line charges that unfairly target American multi-line business customers.

Sincerely,

George J. Miller

George J. Miller
Senior Manager
Telecommunications Services

Checkerboard Square
St. Louis, Missouri 63164