

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION



memorandum
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

TO: Magalie Salas
Secretary of the FCC

FROM: William E. Kennard

SUBJECT: Notice of Oral Ex Parte Presentations in CC Docket No. 96-45.

DATE: January 2, 1998

Please enter the following in the rulemaking record in CC Docket No. 96-45 regarding the FCC's Universal Service Rules. These are disclosures of congressional and executive branch contacts that may have been substantial and intended to affect the ultimate decision, and therefore may fall within the ambit of 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(3). These disclosures are reported to the best of my recollection.

I was contacted by the following members of Congress and/or their staffs: Senator Stevens, Senator Rockefeller, Senator Dorgan and Senator Hollings. During these contacts, various positions were advocated, including that the Commission should (i) maintain the levels of the caps for schools and libraries and rural health care universal service mechanisms, (ii) phase the levels of the caps in more gradually, or (iii) delay altogether the commencement of federal universal service mechanisms adopted by the Commission in its Universal Service Order of May 8, 1997. Some urged the Commission to consider whether to order interexchange carriers to recover universal service contribution through a rate bundled with interexchange service rates, and to consider whether the Commission should clarify or otherwise act to declare that disclosures of universal service costs without coincident disclosure of subsidies received by an individual subscriber or of overall cost or price reductions would be misleading. I do not recall the dates of these contacts, but they all preceded the adoption of the Commission's order changing the maximum collection amounts, which was released on December 16, 1997.

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