

June 22, 2015

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 13-5, Technology Transitions. GN Docket No. 12-353, AT&T Petition to Launch a Proceeding Concerning the TDM-to-IP Transition.

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am contacting you on behalf of Ephraim McDowell Medical Center in Danville, Kentucky. We're a comprehensive, integrated healthcare delivery system that serves more than 119,000 residents from six counties in central Kentucky. At the core of our system is Ephraim McDowell Regional Medical Center, a non-profit, 222-bed licensed hospital that was established more than a century ago.

Hospitals have a strong impact on the health, quality of life, and economies of the communities they serve. We are committed to positively impacting the communities we serve through the best people, practices and performance. Patient experience is incredibly important to us, and we use technology to help us streamline record-keeping, provide superior communication between both staff members and patients, and offer faster service. In addition, we've begun offering robust online services such as MyEMMHealthLink in an effort to empower individuals to gain easy access to their personal health information.

At Ephraim McDowell Health, we made the decision to work with a competitive carrier for our broadband internet services. Our carrier of choice has been able to provide us with more desirable packages and a higher level of service. Such reductions in overhead allow us to invest additional money back into vital programs, such as the Ephraim McDowell Health Care Foundation.

During this tech transition process, we hope that the Commission will work to protect our ability to rely on competitive alternatives in the telecommunications market, allowing organizations like ours to continue to serve the community.

Excellence is our only standard

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Near', written in a cursive style.

Gary Near

System Director of Information Systems, Ephraim McDowell Medical Center

cc: Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel

Commissioner Ajit Pai

Commissioner Michael O'Reilly

Jonathan Sallet

Matthew DelNero

Gigi Sohn