

FRED UPTON, MICHIGAN
CHAIRMAN

FRANK PALLONE, JR., NEW JERSEY
RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

July 9, 2015

*WCB
Competition
Numbering*

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

JUL 13 2015

FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

For over a decade, the Federal Communications Commission has required wireless carriers to implement local number portability, allowing consumers to switch among service providers while keeping their phone number. As you noted earlier this year, “[e]very day, more than 100,000 individuals and businesses in America switch their phone carriers but keep their old number.”

Consumers overwhelmingly prefer to keep their numbers when they switch carriers. However, those hoping to switch to non-nationwide wireless carriers may be unable to port-in their existing numbers under today’s rules. This distinction within the number portability rules places non-nationwide providers at a competitive disadvantage, and as a recent white paper on this issue from the North American Numbering Council noted, this could result in consumer confusion when attempting to switch providers.

We urge you to act expeditiously to resolve this customer confusion and support nationwide wireless number portability for all providers.

Sincerely,


Fred Upton, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce

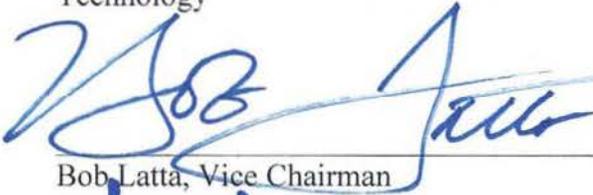

Frank Pallone, Jr., Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce



Greg Walden, Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and
Technology



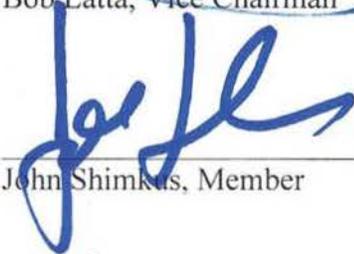
Anna G. Eshoo, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications and
Technology



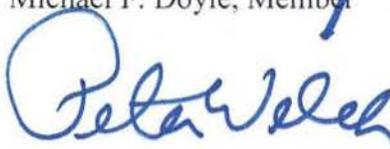
Bob Latta, Vice Chairman



Michael F. Doyle, Member



John Shimkus, Member



Peter Welch, Member



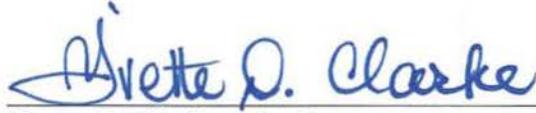
Marsha Blackburn, Member



John Yarmuth, Member



Steve Scalise, Member



Yvette D. Clarke, Member



Leonard Lance, Member



David Loeb sack, Member



Brett Guthrie, Member



Bobby L. Rush, Member



Pete Olson, Member



Diana DeGette, Member



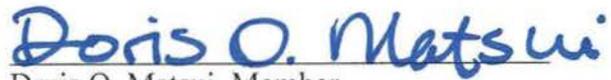
Mike Pompeo, Member



G.K. Butterfield, Member



Adam Kinzinger, Member



Doris O. Matsui, Member



Gus Bilirakis, Member



Jerry McNerney, Member



Bill Johnson, Member



Ben Ray Lujan, Member



Billy Long, Member



Renee Ellmers, Member



Chris Collins, Member



Kevin Cramer, Member



Joe Barton, Member



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton:

Thank you for your letter concerning nationwide wireless-to-wireless number portability. As your letter points out, since 1996 the Commission's policies have supported wireless-to-wireless number portability. These policies are motivated by an objective that we all share – empowering consumers by promoting choice and competition among service providers of all sizes. A consumer should be able to keep his or her telephone number when switching from one wireless carrier to another, regardless of whether the consumer's new carrier has a nationwide presence. This is consistent with the Commission's longstanding policy objectives. To the extent that is not a reality today, I am concerned that consumers and competition will suffer.

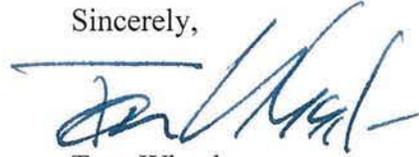
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Thank you again for raising this important issue that goes to the heart of competition and consumer choice.

Sincerely,

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Walden:

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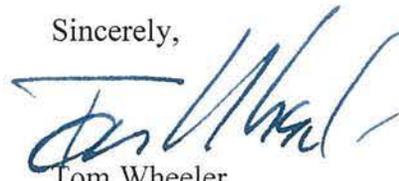
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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pallone:

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

Thank you for your letter concerning nationwide wireless-to-wireless number portability. As your letter points out, since 1996 the Commission's policies have supported wireless-to-wireless number portability. These policies are motivated by an objective that we all share – empowering consumers by promoting choice and competition among service providers of all sizes. A consumer should be able to keep his or her telephone number when switching from one wireless carrier to another, regardless of whether the consumer's new carrier has a nationwide presence. This is consistent with the Commission's longstanding policy objectives. To the extent that is not a reality today, I am concerned that consumers and competition will suffer.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Dave Loebsack
U.S. House of Representatives
1527 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Loebsack:

Thank you for your letter concerning nationwide wireless-to-wireless number portability. As your letter points out, since 1996 the Commission's policies have supported wireless-to-wireless number portability. These policies are motivated by an objective that we all share – empowering consumers by promoting choice and competition among service providers of all sizes. A consumer should be able to keep his or her telephone number when switching from one wireless carrier to another, regardless of whether the consumer's new carrier has a nationwide presence. This is consistent with the Commission's longstanding policy objectives. To the extent that is not a reality today, I am concerned that consumers and competition will suffer.

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

The Honorable Joe L. Barton
U.S. House of Representatives
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Barton:

Thank you for your letter concerning nationwide wireless-to-wireless number portability. As your letter points out, since 1996 the Commission's policies have supported wireless-to-wireless number portability. These policies are motivated by an objective that we all share – empowering consumers by promoting choice and competition among service providers of all sizes. A consumer should be able to keep his or her telephone number when switching from one wireless carrier to another, regardless of whether the consumer's new carrier has a nationwide presence. This is consistent with the Commission's longstanding policy objectives. To the extent that is not a reality today, I am concerned that consumers and competition will suffer.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Gus Bilirakis
U.S. House of Representatives
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bilirakis:

Thank you for your letter concerning nationwide wireless-to-wireless number portability. As your letter points out, since 1996 the Commission's policies have supported wireless-to-wireless number portability. These policies are motivated by an objective that we all share – empowering consumers by promoting choice and competition among service providers of all sizes. A consumer should be able to keep his or her telephone number when switching from one wireless carrier to another, regardless of whether the consumer's new carrier has a nationwide presence. This is consistent with the Commission's longstanding policy objectives. To the extent that is not a reality today, I am concerned that consumers and competition will suffer.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
U.S. House of Representatives
217 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Blackburn:

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

The Honorable G.K. Butterfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2305 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

The Honorable Yvette D. Clarke
U.S. House of Representatives
2351 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Clarke:

Thank you for your letter concerning nationwide wireless-to-wireless number portability. As your letter points out, since 1996 the Commission's policies have supported wireless-to-wireless number portability. These policies are motivated by an objective that we all share – empowering consumers by promoting choice and competition among service providers of all sizes. A consumer should be able to keep his or her telephone number when switching from one wireless carrier to another, regardless of whether the consumer's new carrier has a nationwide presence. This is consistent with the Commission's longstanding policy objectives. To the extent that is not a reality today, I am concerned that consumers and competition will suffer.

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 27, 2015

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
U.S. House of Representatives
2268 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rush:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

July 27, 2015

The Honorable Steve Scalise
U.S. House of Representatives
2338 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Scalise:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

July 27, 2015

The Honorable John Shimkus
U.S. House of Representatives
2452 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Shimkus:

Thank you for your letter concerning nationwide wireless-to-wireless number portability. As your letter points out, since 1996 the Commission's policies have supported wireless-to-wireless number portability. These policies are motivated by an objective that we all share – empowering consumers by promoting choice and competition among service providers of all sizes. A consumer should be able to keep his or her telephone number when switching from one wireless carrier to another, regardless of whether the consumer's new carrier has a nationwide presence. This is consistent with the Commission's longstanding policy objectives. To the extent that is not a reality today, I am concerned that consumers and competition will suffer.

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