

August 13, 2015

Marlene H. Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**In the Matter of:      Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of  
Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45.**

Dear Secretary Dortch,

The undersigned members of the Education and Library Networks Coalition (EdLiNC), take this opportunity to endorse the American Library Association's nomination for the library position appointment to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors. Mr. Robert Bocher is a consultant to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction on E-rate and technology issues and technology Fellow for ALA's Office for Information Technology Policy where he advises ALA on E-rate matters. Mr. Bocher has been involved with the E-rate program since its beginning and will bring a wealth of experience both with the program and with the concerns of program applicants to the USAC Board. Additionally, Mr. Bocher has significant experience with broadband networks for both libraries and schools. Through his broad experience, Mr. Bocher has the knowledge and experience necessary to make a significant contribution to the USAC Board.

Mr. Bocher began his long tenure advocating for broadband capacity issues in the early days of the E-rate program serving as the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's (WDPI) state-wide E-rate support manager. Mr. Bocher brings additional expertise related to broadband network design and management through his work with Wisconsin's research and education network, WiscNet, which provides internet access to the majority of the state's libraries and K12 schools and BadgerNet the state's broadband network. Mr. Bocher's unique skill set of understanding the applicant experience with the E-rate program while also being familiar with policy development and the implementation of Commission rules, make him a strong candidate for the USAC Board as USAC implements the two E-rate Modernization orders.

Mr. Bocher's diverse experience ensures he will be a strong contributor to the management and oversight of USAC's administration of the E-rate program specifically and of the Universal Service Fund (USF) generally. Mr. Bocher is amply prepared to provide a strong hand in a collaborative spirit to help USAC accomplish its near term goals while helping to shape a longer vision as the

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Commission continues to address complicated issues that impact USF programs and the respective constituents.

The undersigned members of EdLiNC are pleased to support Mr. Bocher's nomination and are confident he will provide the necessary leadership and professional collaboration that ensures the integrity and continued success of the E-rate program and more broadly, the Universal Service Fund.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[AASA, The School Superintendents Association](#)  
[American Federation of Teachers](#)  
[Association of Educational Service Agencies](#)  
[Consortium for School Networking](#)  
[International Society for Technology in Education](#)  
[National Association of Elementary School Principals](#)  
[National Association of Independent Schools](#)  
[National Association of Secondary School Principals](#)  
[National Catholic Educational Association](#)  
[National Education Association](#)  
[National School Boards Association](#)