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MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BRANDT IDEN
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

61ST DISTRICT
STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

Re: MB Docket No. 15-149

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

October 5, 2015

Chairman Wheeler,

One important function of the Michigan House of Representatives is to encourage investment in our state in areas of need. Technology is a tremendous driver of development, jobs, and growth and is therefore a vital component of Michigan's continued economic recovery. Unfortunately, broadband infrastructure - the backbone of much of the technology we use - suffers from outdated networks in many parts of the county. Businesses and residents need updated fiber-optics in order to fully utilize the latest technological innovations. I support the proposed cable broadband company New Charter because it would improve service in my community and across the nation.

Building on the legacies of Charter Communications, Time Warner, and Bright House Networks, New Charter would invest heavily in several areas, including an investment of at least \$2.5 billion in commercial networks and a build out of one million residential line extensions. This work would upgrade the existing failing networks to new high-speed fiber optics, ensuring quality connections for businesses and residents.

Additionally, New Charter would work to fully digitize across its national platform. Charter has already invested hundreds of millions of dollars toward this goal and New Charter is poised to expand the project to its newest customers. Furthermore, New Charter would also invest in in-home and out-of-home WiFi hotspots - a move that is in line with the growth of mobile technology.

For the reasons stated above, and because I believe New Charter would bring many benefits to my constituents, I fully support New Charter and respectfully request that the company's investment plans be considered and the merger approved.

Sincerely,

Brandt Iden
State Representative
Michigan's 61st District