

CAPITOL OFFICE

State Capitol
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room 308
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: (573) 751-4039
Todd.Richardson@house.mo.gov



COMMITTEE

Ethics – Chairman
Joint Committee on Government
Accountability - Member

DISTRICT ADDRESS

123 South Second Street
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Tele: (573) 686-7281

CHIEF OF STAFF

David Willis

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Leann Hager

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Todd Richardson

State Representative
District 152

August 11, 2015

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

RE: Proceeding No. 15-149

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

In Missouri, it is a priority to ensure that our State is a place where our citizens and businesses can grow and prosper. Therefore, it is important to support telecommunications organizations that provide infrastructures to Missouri that make our State a better place to live and work. As Speaker of the House, I would like to extend my support to Charter Communications under this proceeding.

Charter serves a large number of communities in Missouri, ranging from communities in the St. Louis Metropolitan market to smaller rural communities. Last year, Charter upgraded its networks to all-digital. Their infrastructure provides to homes and businesses cable television services with many programs in HD; a competitive voice product to traditional phone service; and, a quality high-speed Internet service. Their slowest Internet tier of service in Missouri is 60 megabits and in certain markets the slowest speed available is 100 megabits. They are a company that does not put restrictions on Internet traffic and they have agreed to protect an open internet with the properties they acquire in this transaction. Such commitments by Charter will help to promote jobs and spur new investments in our State.

While Charter's technology can enhance job growth, the company itself has produced jobs for Missouri. They have more than 4,000 employees in our State and have a number of technical offices and stores throughout Missouri to provide support for their customers. Charter is committed under the new structure to increase domestic customer care employee capacity by bringing previously outsourced Time Warner jobs back to the United States.

I respectfully ask you and the other members of the Commission to support the New Charter merger.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Todd Richardson'.

Todd Richardson
Speaker
Missouri House of Representatives