



## State of Connecticut

### SENATE

**SENATOR TONI BOUCHER**  
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**CHIEF DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER**

**RANKING MEMBER**  
EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

**MEMBER**  
FINANCE, REVENUE & BONDING COMMITTEE  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

October 20, 2015

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

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

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed merger of Charter Communications, Bright House Networks and Time Warner Cable. As a member of the Connecticut General Assembly for nearly two decades, I recognize the many benefits that this transaction will bring to our state and consumers throughout the New Charter service area. These benefits will include faster broadband service, new investments in customer service, and plans to aggressively rollout advanced technologies.

With its Stamford-based corporate headquarters, Charter has a strong presence in southwest Connecticut, providing hundreds of jobs that are a valuable component of our region's economy. With this merger, New Charter will create thousands of new jobs by hiring a wide range of new customer-facing employees (ex. call center personnel). Importantly, their plans will include the relocation of foreign-based Time Warner Cable call centers employees back to the U.S.

I am also pleased to highlight the strong commitment to diversity that all three companies have demonstrated through the manner in which they conduct their business. To continue these efforts, New Charter will implement Time Warner Cable's diversity and inclusion initiatives to expand minority and female presence in hiring, purchasing, programming, and community investment. New Charter will also look towards partnerships with educational institutions and nonprofits, including Women in Cable Telecommunications (WICT), the National Association for Multi-Ethnicity in Communications (NAMIC), the Betsy Magness Leadership Institute, and veterans and disability community organizations. Additionally, to increase participation in New Charter's supply chain, they will offer free seminars for minority, women, veteran, and disabled-owned businesses.

As a longstanding education policymaker (both local & state level), I understand that it is critically important that we find ways to leverage technology to stimulate student's creativity and enable educators and parents to have access to the broadest array of tools and resources. The ability to access reliable and affordable broadband must be a key element of our technology-based strategies, and Charter's plan to make major upgrades and significant investments in their broadband networks will certainly advance these goals.

Sincerely,

Senator Toni Boucher  
Connecticut State Senate