



November 16, 2015

Chairman Wheeler  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-A325  
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 Chairman Wheeler:

We are pleased to support the nomination of Olivia Wein to the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors for a second term in the position for information service providers.<sup>1</sup> Ms. Wein is the Lead Telecom Project Attorney for the National Consumer Law Center and has extensive expertise with the Lifeline program as well as other low-income utility assistance programs and low-income consumer protections. Ms. Wein has been a trusted resource to the Media Democracy Fund and other public interest advocacy groups who are committed to the success of the Lifeline program, especially ones that includes broadband service.

This is a critical moment for the Universal Services Programs as the emphasis has shifted from voice support to broadband access. Lifeline support differs from the other three universal services programs because it directly reaches low-income households. The future implementation of Lifeline modernization will require USAC to place a greater emphasis on engagement with low-income consumers, their communities and the grassroots advocates that support them in navigating this exciting and long-awaited transition. Ms. Wein has the background to contribute to the USAC's work during this transition.

We strongly endorse Ms. Wein's nomination to serve a second term on the USAC Board of Directors as set forth above.

---

<sup>1</sup> In 2013 the Wireline Competition Bureau did not receive nominations for the seats representing interexchange carriers with more than \$3 billion in annual operating revenues or information service providers and as a result waived 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.703(b) and 54.703(c)(3) to appoint members from the telecommunications field for those two seats, enabling USAC to operate with its full complement of Board members. *See Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc.; Nominations for Board Member Positions on the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors*, CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 97-21, Order, DA 13-607 (Wireline Comp. Bur. Rel. Apr. 25, 2013).



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Brunner". The script is fluid and cursive.

Helen Brunner  
Founding Director, Media Democracy Fund

Cc: Charles Tyler, FCC Wireline Competition Bureau