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RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

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

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

Rural communities often suffer from lack of access and support across numerous critical areas. Technology is no exception, and as our economy continues to build its reliance on innovation we must consider the impact of access problems. Rural communities need better support if they are going to survive in our modern world. I am proud to advocate for underserved regions in the Michigan State Senate, and today I would like to lend my support to the merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable, and Bright House Networks into New Charter.

The pending merger proposal has sparked heated debates within the cable broadband industry and regulatory community. I believe New Charter's proposal clearly outlines the many ways it would serve in the interest of the public and improve its industry. I am especially impressed with the company's commitment to rural development, and I believe it is important that our government supports efforts to improve underserved communities.

New Charter would work to deliver quality broadband to all consumers, including those living in rural communities. The company would make critical investments in broadband infrastructure, including major commercial and residential network upgrades. In addition, the company would fully digitize across its national platform, including for those living in rural regions. These efforts would improve the reliability and speed of the Internet in rural regions, and allow all customers to fully utilize broadband in their personal and professional lives.

Please consider the impact of New Charter's rural investments and approve the merger.

Sincerely,

Senator Tom Casperson
Michigan State Senate