

**TAXPAYERS  
PROTECTION  
ALLIANCE**

December 1, 2015

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

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

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

The Taxpayers Protection Alliance (TPA), representing millions of taxpayers across the country, is writing to express our support for the value of consumer demands and free enterprise. It is our belief that sound businesses will work in the interest of consumers in order to compete and be successful. The proposed cable and broadband company New Charter has illustrated this relationship clearly through its public interest statement. The merging companies, Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable, and Bright House Networks, have put forth a plan to provide superior services and customer care. We view attacks against New Charter's modem policy as attempts to set back the company's efforts to meet consumer demands.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) should not use Charter's modem policy as an obstacle to approving the merger. TPA believes that this transaction will lead to increased investment in critical infrastructure at no cost to American taxpayers. This deal will also achieve other FCC policy goals without wasting public funds or introducing onerous regulations on the vibrant broadband industry.

New Charter has identified numerous ways it would engage customers, including keeping costs low and quality at a premium. We urge the Commission not to dismantle measures that are sure to benefit consumers.

New Charter would work to improve the practices and reputation of its industry through a commitment to sustainable investments and a consumer-oriented approach to customer billing. For example, New Charter would continue Charter's practices of streamlined billing, no data caps or usage based billing, no contracts and no modem fees. The free modem policy has inexplicably come under attack recently, with some fearing it could be a tool for hidden charges. In fact, the modem policy is entirely consumer-driven, and would allow customers to benefit from the latest technology while saving them an industry average of \$8-\$10 per month in modem fees.

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TPA urges the FCC to recognize the substantial customer benefit of Charter's free modem policy. The policy is sure to be welcomed by future customers. Please consider the many benefits of New Charter and extend your support to the merger.

Sincerely,



David Williams  
President

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