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CLEM SMITH
State Representative
District 85

COMMITTEES

Utilities Select
Labor and
Industrial Relations Select
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Utility Infrastructure
Workforce Standards and
Development
Joint Committee on
Tax Policy
Missouri Multiple Sclerosis
Task Force

December 8, 2015

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

RE: Proceeding No. 15-149

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

As the State Representative of the 85th District, I represent a number of communities in northern St. Louis County just east of St. Louis International Airport. Many of my communities are bedroom type communities with small retail and service type establishments. The heart of my district, however, is the constituents. They are hard-working individuals, who care for their families and give much of themselves to benefit their communities.

Charter Communications is one of the providers of telecommunications services in my district; providing video, Internet and phone services throughout my District. Charter's plant is all-digital and they provide a wide array of programming with much of its in High Definition. Their high-speed Internet service is utilized by my residential and business constituents. Their slowest Internet speed in my District is one hundred megabits per second. Such speeds are of great value to students with their studies as well as to small business in my community which need to have the services to compete with their competition.

One of the reasons I support the New Charter merger is because Charter has agreed to embrace Bright House Network's low-income broadband program, giving individuals with limited financial means the ability to connect to the world through technology. Secondly, Charter has brought jobs into Missouri. They recently opened a new office; becoming a key tenant at the old Northwest Plaza Mall in St. Ann.

Mr. Tom Wheeler

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This facility will create new jobs in Missouri. Charter has also committed to bring Time Warner Cable's outsourced customer care jobs back into the United States. Finally, Charter is part of the St. Louis community through Charter Our Community. This initiative partners with Rebuilding Together St. Louis to provide funding and volunteers to help rebuild low-income homes. They have also been a supporter of the St. Louis Area Food Bank, which provides food to families in need.

For the reasons noted above, I hope that the FCC will approve the new Charter merger.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clem Smith', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Clem Smith

State Representative, 85th District