December 8, 2015

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

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

This letter is in support of the merger between Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks into the combined New Charter. New Charter would bring great benefit to both low-income families and California students.

As the Superintendent of the Ceres Unified School District in Ceres, California – where more than 85 percent of our students' families meet the income requirements for the federal Free and Reduced Lunch program – I understand firsthand the importance of affordable broadband to students' success. In today’s technologically driven world, almost everything we do requires access to the Internet, and our students especially rely on high-speed connections for writing research papers, completing homework, studying for the SATs and applying to college. New Charter has made multiple commitments to promote access and increase speeds at a low price.

New Charter will offer a low-priced basic package with a basement rate of 60 Mbps. Packages will range from 60 to 300 Mbps, as a continuation of Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks’ current offerings. New Charter will also offer fiber solutions with speeds up to 10 Gbps for schools, libraries and large businesses.

Internet connections create opportunity and level the playing field for low-income families, and New Charter has pledged to work to bridge the digital divide. This is evidenced by New Charter’s commitment to expanding Bright House Networks’ successful low-income program, which offers discounted broadband to low-income families in need.

I appreciate New Charter’s commitments to affordable, quality Internet and cable packages and their goal to improve the communities in which they operate. I believe New Charter will be a positive addition to the cable broadband industry and I urge you to vote to approve the merger.

Sincerely,

Scott Siegel, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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