



**GOGEBIC-ONTONAGON
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY**

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January 15, 2016

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

RE: Proceeding No. 15-149

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

Gogebic- Ontonagon Community Action Agency is a nonprofit in the Upper Peninsula dedicated to improving the quality of life, reducing the causes of hardship, and building self- sufficiency for the people of Gogebic and Ontonagon counties. Employment is the ultimate aim for many of our clients, a goal that requires support from many different places, including access to the Internet.

The GOCAA Governing Board passed a motion of Support for the proposed merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable, and Bright House Networks at its regular Governing Board Meeting held on January 6, 2016. Charter operates locally in our region and city and their continued investment will boost economic development and provide additional benefits to consumers and residents of Gogebic and Ontonagon Counties.

In today's 21st Century economy, job seekers are increasingly led online to find available positions. Unfortunately, many people do not have access to the Internet because it is too expensive. However, a proposed addition to the cable broadband industry is looking to make a difference for families and individuals with fewer means. New Charter, the combination of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks, would be a community-oriented company. No place is that more evident in its merger proposal than the adoption and expansion of Bright House's low-income program. This would have a tremendous impact on many people, including families with children trying to complete their homework at home and adults looking to further their education online.

We are very impressed by New Charter's commitment to underserved communities. We hope that the merger is approved so that clients like ours can have the tools they need to rebuild their lives.

Sincerely,

LeRoy Kangas,
Board Chairman, GOCAA