Dear Chairman Wheeler,

I am writing to express my support for the approval of the proposed Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks merger. My view is based on free-market principles, as well as my experiences and observations in what has taken place in Texas.

During my time in the legislature, including my tenure as chair of the House committee overseeing telecommunications policy, Texas has made significant strides in reducing regulatory burden and creating a more predictable regulatory climate for the telecommunications industry. As a result, we have seen a significant increase in investments in video and broadband services, which have benefitted Texans and Texas business. As consumer behavior and needs change, companies should be allowed the flexibility to make decisions to best meet consumer demands and rapidly changing market forces.

Charter's stated post-merger commitments emphasize the benefits for consumers. Among the benefits, Charter plans to enhance broadband speeds across the entire current Time Warner Cable footprint and deploy a significant number of out-of-home WiFi access points so customers can access broadband away from home. Charter also plans to build out more line extensions for residential areas and invest at least $2.5 billion to build out to commercial areas.

It is clear the proposed Charter, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks merger will benefit consumers and I encourage you to approve the merger. I appreciate your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Phil King
State Representative