

Chairman Powell,

I respectfully ask that you refuse to grant any more extensions to the 1996 Telecommunications Act provision that requires wireless carriers to provide phone number portability. These companies have had years to allow for this change, and yet they have been unable to provide a single bit of progress.

I depend on my cell phone more than most -- I have no home phone number. I rely on my cell phone as my primary contact number. I have been with Cingular in California for 3 years, and have been unhappy with their service for nearly 2 of those years. I have been unable to make a switch to a better provider because my phone number is unfairly tied to my provider. I might be able to make the switch if Cingular offered some sort of number forwarding or message service for my old number, but they don't.

The time is over for excuses. It is time to empower consumers with the ability to change providers with ease. We are talking about increased competition -- something that benefits all of us.

Please do the right thing for the consumer.

Thank you,

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