

www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs
Docket number 95-116.

TO: Federal Communications Commission
Reference: CTIA Petition, Docket No. 95-116

Dear Commissioners:

Picture this. The world of telephony is wireless. Then someone comes up with the bright idea to tether the telephone to the wall. And so, instead of having a personal telephone, and a unique telephone number, both that travel with us wherever we go—in our cars, to other addresses, other towns, other states, other countries—we are forced to share a community number with family members and others who occupy the same physical premises. And when we go to work—but only *after* we arrive—we must switch to another telephone system and another telephone number. Who would buy that?

By giving us control over our personal communications, wireless telephone service changed our lives as profoundly as the personal computer. But what happens today when we simply change wireless carriers, or heaven forbid, go wild turkey and dump our dial-tone service for cellular? The carriers make us divorce our telephone number. What kind of sense does that make? New technology has provided us with options, but by holding our telephone number hostage, the wired telephone monopolies and the wireless carriers keep us tethered to a media and/or a carrier that is no longer competitive.

I urge the commission to unshackle telephone subscribers from these onerous policies. Give us the freedom to choose the technology and the carrier that offers the best solution to our personal telecommunications needs without leaving our telephone identity behind.

Sincerely,

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