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March 9, 2005

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation in CC Docket Nos. 96-45, 98-171,90-571,
92-337, 99-200, 98-170, and NSD File L-00-72

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 8, 2005, Senator Larry E. Craig of Idaho sent a letter to Chairman Powell in which he urged the Commission to consider retention of the usage/revenue fee-based universal service contribution methodology now in effect. Senator Craig's letter notes that a connections-based contribution methodology plan could have negative effects on low-volume long distance callers, residential customers, and consumers on fixed incomes.

It does not appear that Senator Craig's letter was filed in the dockets in which universal service contribution issues are under consideration. A copy of Senator Craig's letter to Chairman Powell is attached hereto. By this letter, TracFone Wireless, Inc. requests that Senator Craig's letter be included in the record in each of the above-captioned dockets. TracFone shares Senator Craig's concerns and believes that the Commission should retain a universal service contribution methodology based on interstate revenues. As TracFone has stated on previous occasions, of the contribution methodology plans under consideration by the Commission, only a revenues-based plan is equitable and non-discriminatory and competitively neutral.

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
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Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules, this letter and attachment are being filed electronically in the above-captioned docket. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please feel free to contact undersigned counsel for TracFone.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mitchell F. Brecher', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mitchell F. Brecher

Attachment

cc: Hon. Kathleen Abernathy
Hon. Kevin Martin
Hon. Jonathan Adelstein
Hon. Michael Copps
Mr. Jeffrey Carlisle
Ms. Lisa Gelb
Mr. Anthony Dale
Mr. Rodger Woock
Mr. Richard Lerner
Ms. Narda Jones
Ms. Carol Pomponio

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1203

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
CHAIRMAN
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

March 8, 2005

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

In the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the Universal Service Fund (USF) was modified to help all Americans obtain access to state-of-the-art services and technologies at comparable rates. Congress charged the Federal Communications Commission with the task of creating a fair, equitable, and non-discriminatory method of collecting fees from telecommunications service providers to fund the USF.

It has come to my attention that the FCC is considering various plans to change the way it collects fees for the USF, including a plan based on a per-connection collection method. The per-connection plan would require low volume long-distance users to pay the same amount into the fund as high volume users.

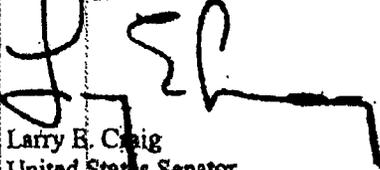
Implementing this plan may affect many of my constituents. A close inspection of the connection-based formula reveals the potential negative effects this plan may have on low-volume long-distance callers, residential customers, and consumers on fixed incomes.

As you know, fees for the USF are currently collected through a usage/revenue-based methodology that is competitively neutral. Under this system, businesses and consumers who make the most long distance calls pay the most into the fund -- those who use more pay more, and those who use less pay less.

As the FCC considers various plans, I respectfully request that you carefully weigh the effects the "connection-based" collection method may have on low volume long-distance users. I urge you to consider retaining the usage/revenue fee collection method now in effect.

I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this issue as the FCC proceeds with its decision. I look forward to working closely with you on this matter.

Sincerely,



Larry E. Craig
United States Senator

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