

The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

Congratulations on your appointment to Chair the FCC. In your new leadership role, I urge you to support the "Fair Share Plan" as a solution to current concerns with the Universal Service Fund (USF). The Fair Share Plan will keep the USF fair, ensuring that consumers like me do not pay the same rate into the USF as big businesses, regardless of how little I may use long distance.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition submitted the Fair Share Plan to the FCC on January 31, 2005. It expands who pays into the USF so that other technologies - not just phones - pay into the system. The Fair Share Plan collects the USF using a combination numbers- and revenue-based plan. This keeps the system fair, equitable and non-discriminatory.

Under the flat fee or numbers-based plan you are considering, people like me who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. I believe it would be unfair to charge low-volume and residential customers the same fees as high-volume residential or business customers.

I live in a rural area and haven't noticed a lot of telephone work going on here or anywhere in the country. Last year my phone was out for 6 days before they could come to fix it, since it went out on a week in and it acted like I was on a party line, but I couldn't call out. The problem ended up being a neighbor added a new line and the person who hooked it up did it wrong. Is this what your fund is paying for? On top of that the local phone company office closed so on top of having to drive to town I have to pay to call to even report it being out, and that takes about 10 minutes of garbage to just report it. I had dropped buying another air time card for my cell phone because I couldn't afford it at the time so in the case of an emergency I would have been in a big pickle. I don't have any close family members left, thus I rarely make any long distance calls at all. I've been trying to keep buying air time cards for my cell phone so I can take it with me when I make the 2 or 6 hour round trips to the VA Clinic/Hospital since my car is 12 years old now and I might get stuck out on the road (single females need a way to call for help instead of fall prey to foul people). My minutes keep stacking up because I don't use them much and mainly only keep the phone going to use for 911 or emergency road service.

If you want to head for some beneficial territory make a emergency cell phone system and phones where people are only charged for when they need to use it in an emergency to call for road service. All 911 calls would remain free though since most of the time that would be used to report a crime in progress, fire, or accident. And keep the phones cheap enough to where low income people can afford to buy it. Think of the lives and amount of property that might be saved. Before I got a cell

phone on early morning on my way to a VA appointment a car coming head on towards me was weaving all over the road. This person was either having medical problems or was a drunk, either way if they had been any farther out from town they could have caused a serious accident and needed to be reported, pulled over and helped or relieved of their car if drunk. In that same trip another car was behaving the same way. We've come a long way, but it seems the only thing people care about any more is making a buck and ripping people unfairly out of bucks.

The USF was started for a good reason, but that reason has long passed in most of the country. Thus as far as I am concerned it is time to drop it since your heading for unfair territory with it.

I urge you to keep the USF fair, and adopt the Fair Share Plan. Thank you, and best of luck in your new position.

Sincerely, Kay Harris 1331 CR 500 Stephenville, Tx 76401

cc: Marlene Dortch, Secretary

Sincerely,

Kay Harris
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