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DEC 13 2005

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ORIGINAL

John Graybill

209 Fairview Dr., LaGrange, Indiana 46761-1601

DOCKETED

ORIGINAL

December 05, 2005 04:47 PM

FCC

Chairman Kevin J. Martin

445 12th Street SW

Washington, D.C. 20554

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Chairman Martin:

The following is the text of letters sent to my U.S. Senators and U.S. Representative. Please be aware that I will be watching this issue until it is resolved in favor of the ordinary citizens of this country who depend on their phones as a lifeline.

I have serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commissions' (FCC) position to change the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection method to a monthly flat fee. Many of your constituents, including me, my friends, family and neighbors, will be negatively impacted by the unfair change proposed by the FCC.

This is one of the most ridiculous proposals to be made by an FCC Chairman. Millions of retired Americans and others on fixed incomes who make few if any long distance calls will be socked with higher fees. Many will have to choose between buying food or medicine, or keeping their phone service.

At present my local phone service is only about \$15.00 per month. However the added fees are another \$10.00. The breakup of the Bell System was supposed to save me money. It has not. And now you propose a flat fee for USF. Set the fee at a per-call level and let those who make the most calls pay the most. Poor people and widows do not need to be subsidizing the phone bills of large corporations and telemarketers.

When will Congress become aware of this mess and take action to stop it?

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones due to unaffordable monthly increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

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The Keep USF Fair Coalition, of which I am a member, keeps me informed about the USF issue with monthly newsletters and up to date information on their website, including links to FCC information. While I am aware that federal law does not require companies to recover, or "pass along" these fees to their customers, the reality is that they do. As a consumer I would like ensure I am charged fairly. If the FCC goes to a numbers taxed, my service will cost more. And according to the Coalition's recent meetings with top FCC officials, the FCC has plans to change to a flat fee system soon and without legislation.

I will continue to monitor developments on the issue and continue to spread the word to my community. I request you pass along my concerns to the FCC on my behalf, letting them know how a flat fee tax could disproportionately affect those in your constituency.

In addition, I will be writing my representatives in Washington: Rep. Mark Souder; Sen. Evan Bayh; Sen. Richard Lugar.

Thank you for your continued work and I look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Graybill". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "G".

John Graybill

cc:

FCC General Email Box

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2847 Fulton St.
Berkeley, CA 94705-1064
Dec. 5, 2005

96-45

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20554

ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please drop plans to change the USF from collection on a usage basis to a flat fee.
Citizens who save money by limiting their phone calls should not be penalized for doing so.

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones because of unaffordable increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

It is no defense to say that the law doesn't require phone companies to pass the charges on; they do so, regardless. Making those who use less pay for the calls of high-use customers is blatantly unfair.

Sincerely,

Brian L. Cooke

Brian L. Cooke

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DOCKETS ORIGINAL
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6950 Sayre Dr.
Oakland, CA 94611-1427

96-45

ORIGINAL

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20554

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please drop plans to change the USF from collection on a usage basis to a flat fee. Citizens who save money by limiting their phone calls should not be penalized for doing so.

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones because of unaffordable increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

It is no defense to say that the law doesn't require phone companies to pass the charges on; they do so, regardless. Making those who use less pay for the calls of high-use customers is blatantly unfair.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Cossey
Darrell Hogan
Marilyn Cossey/Darrell Hogan

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Richard N. Gray

5507 Dalcross Dr., Columbia, Missouri 65203-5133

December 06, 2005

ORIGINAL

FCC
Chairman Kevin J. Martin
445 12th Street S. W.
Washington, DC 20554

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Sir:

I have serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commissions' (FCC) position to change the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection method to a monthly flat fee.

Jennifer & I are retired & each has a cell phone that we use away from our home. They're mainly for emergencies, & we receive very few calls. Therefore, we will be negatively impacted by the unfair change proposed by the FCC.

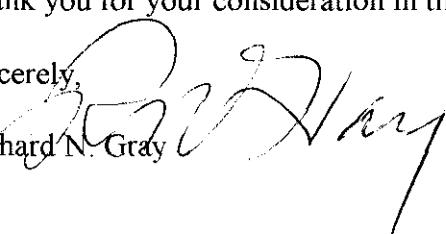
A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like us, to give up their phones due to unaffordable monthly increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition, of which I am a member, keeps me informed about the USF issue with monthly newsletters and up to date information on their website, including links to FCC information.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Richard N. Gray



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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
355 Maiden Ln
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462-7121

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20554

ORIGINAL

96-485

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please drop plans to change the USF from collection on a usage basis to a flat fee. Citizens who save money by limiting their phone calls should not be penalized for doing so.

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones because of unaffordable increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

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Sincerely,



Nan Cardella

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DEC 13 2005

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Vicki K. Davis

P.O. Box 1189 , Lakeview, Oregon 97630

DOCKED ORIGINAL

November 30, 2005 04:22 PM

FCC

Chairman Kevin J. Martin
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Mr. Martin

I have serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commissions' (FCC) position to change the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection method to a monthly flat fee. Many of your constituents, including me, my friends, family and neighbors, will be negatively impacted by the unfair change proposed by the FCC.

As you know, USF is currently collected on a revenue basis. People who use more pay more into the system. If the FCC changes that system to a flat fee, that means that someone who uses one thousand minutes a month of long distance, pays the same amount into the fund as someone who uses zero minutes of long distance a month. Constituents who use their limited resources wisely should not be penalized for doing so.

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones due to unaffordable monthly increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition, of which I am a member, keeps me informed about the USF issue with monthly newsletters and up to date information on their website, including links to FCC information. While I am aware that federal law does not require companies to recover, or "pass along" these fees to their customers, the reality is that they do. As a consumer I would like ensure I am charged fairly. If the FCC goes to a numbers taxed, my service will cost more. And according to the Coalition's recent meetings with top FCC officials, the FCC has plans to change to a flat fee system soon and without legislation.

I will continue to monitor developments on the issue and continue to spread the word to my community. I request you pass along my concerns to the FCC on my behalf, letting them know how a flat fee tax could disproportionately affect them.

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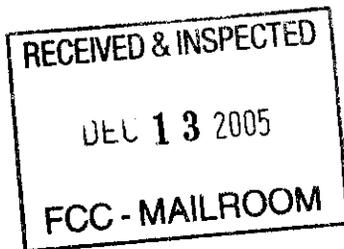
Thank you for your continued work and I look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

Sincerely, 
Vicki K. Davis

cc:

FCC General Email Box

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964 Overlook Rd.
Berkeley, CA 94708-1512

ORIGINAL
ab

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20554

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please drop plans to change the USF from collection on a usage basis to a flat fee. Citizens who save money by limiting their phone calls should not be penalized for doing so.

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones because of unaffordable increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

It is no defense to say that the law doesn't require phone companies to pass the charges on; they do so, regardless. Making those who use less pay for the calls of high-use customers is blatantly unfair.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Rubach

12/03/05

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PO Box 176
Bollinas, CA 94924-0176

ORIGINAL

96-45

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20554

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please drop plans to change the USF from collection on a usage basis to a flat fee. Citizens who save money by limiting their phone calls should not be penalized for doing so.

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones because of unaffordable increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

It is no defense to say that the law doesn't require phone companies to pass the charges on; they do so, regardless. Making those who use less pay for the calls of high-use customers is blatantly unfair.

Sincerely,



Vivienne Verdon-Roe

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DEC 14 2005

FCC - MAILROOM

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Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear [decision maker name] *Kevin J. Martin,*

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ORIGINAL

I have serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commissions' (FCC) position to change the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection method to a monthly flat fee. Many of your constituents, including me, my friends, family and neighbors, will be negatively impacted by the unfair change proposed by the FCC.

As you know, USF is currently collected on a revenue basis. People who use more pay more into the system. If the FCC changes that system to a flat fee, that means that someone who uses one thousand minutes a month of long distance, pays the same amount into the fund as someone who uses zero minutes of long distance a month. Constituents who use their limited resources wisely should not be penalized for doing so.

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones due to unaffordable monthly increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

The Keep USF Fair Coalition, of which I am a member, keeps me informed about the USF issue with monthly newsletters and up to date information on their website, including links to FCC information. While I am aware that federal law does not require companies to recover, or "pass along" these fees to their customers, the reality is that they do. As a consumer I would like ensure I am charged fairly. If the FCC goes to a numbers taxed, my service will cost more. And according to the Coalition's recent meetings with top FCC officials, the FCC has plans to change to a flat fee system soon and without legislation.

I will continue to monitor developments on the issue and continue to spread the word to my community. I request you pass along my concerns to the FCC on my behalf, letting them know how a flat fee tax could disproportionately affect those in your constituency.

But now the FCC is thinking about changing that so that everyone would pay the same amount no matter how many long-distance minutes you use.

Imagine, if you use only \$1 of long distance a month, you would pay THE SAME as someone who uses \$1,000 a month? Does that seem fair? Of course not.

The FCC's proposed new radical "flat fee" shifts the tax burden from large corporate long-distance users to residential and small business telephone users, many of whom use little or no long-distance. The change will hurt seniors, students, minorities and rural residents -- those who can least afford it -- the most.

You can help stop this!

HELP THE KEEP USF FAIR COALITION AND TAKE ACTION TODAY!

Campaign Expiration Date:
December 31, 2006

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December 2, 2005

Kevin J. Martin
FCC, Chairman
445 12th St SW,
Washington, DC, 20554

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DEC 13 2005
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POCKET FILE COPY

ORIGINAL

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Kevin J. Martin

I have serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commissions' (FCC) position to change the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection method to a monthly flat fee. Many of your constituents, including me, my friends, family and neighbors, will be negatively impacted by the unfair change proposed by the FCC.

As you know, USF is currently collected on a revenue basis. People who use more pay more into the system. If the FCC changes that system to a flat fee, that means that someone who uses one thousand minutes a month of long distance, pays the same amount into the fund as someone who uses zero minutes of long distance a month. Constituents who use their limited resources wisely should not be penalized for doing so.

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I will continue to monitor developments on the issue and continue to spread the word to my community. I request you pass along my concerns to the FCC on my behalf, letting them know how a flat fee tax could disproportionately affect those in your constituency.

Thank you for your continued work and I look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

Sincerely,
Nancy Bumford
Nancy Bumford

cc:
FCC General Email Box

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ORIGINAL

December 5, 2005

DOCKET WITH COPY ORIGINAL

FCC
Chairman Kevin J Martin
445 12th ST SW
Washington DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

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Thank you for your continued work and I look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

Sincerely,

Benita Ouellette
13 Larsson RD
New Sweden ME 04762

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DEC 13 2005
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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Gloria Donohue

ORIGINAL

105 29th Street , San Francisco, California 94110-4902

December 05, 2005 02:24 PM

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Chairman Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Chairman Martin:

I have serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commissions' (FCC) position to change the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection method to a monthly flat fee. Many of your constituents, including me, my friends, family and neighbors, will be negatively impacted by the unfair change proposed by the FCC.

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Thank you for your continued work and I look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

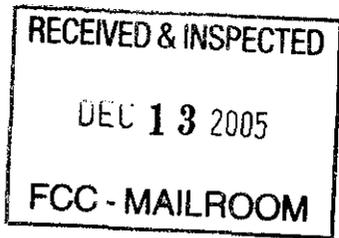
Sincerely,


Gloria Donohue

cc:

FCC General Email Box

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1789 Leimert Blvd.
Oakland, CA 94602

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

96-45

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20554

ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please drop plans to change the USF from collection on a usage basis to a flat fee. Citizens who save money by limiting their phone calls should not be penalized for doing so.

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It is no defense to say that the law doesn't require phone companies to pass the charges on; they do so, regardless. Making those who use less pay for the calls of high-use customers is blatantly unfair.

Sincerely,

Nadya Tichman

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DEC 13 2005
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1510 E. Walnut St.
Berkeley, CA 94709-1513

96-45

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20554

DOCKET FILED ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please drop plans to change the USF from collection on a usage basis to a flat fee. Citizens who save money by limiting their phone calls should not be penalized for doing so.

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Sincerely,



David M. Dobkin, CFP

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DEC 13 2005
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1462 Cornell Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94702-1036

96 HS

Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20554

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ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Martin:

Please drop plans to change the USF from collection on a usage basis to a flat fee. Citizens who save money by limiting their phone calls should not be penalized for doing so.

A flat fee tax could cause many low-volume long distance users, like students, prepaid wireless users, senior citizens and low-income residential and rural consumers, to give up their phones because of unaffordable increases on their bills. Shifting the funding burden of the USF from high volume to low-volume users is radical and unnecessary. In addition, it would have a highly detrimental effect on small businesses all across America.

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Sincerely,



Abbot R. Foote

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DEC 13 2005
FCC - MAILROOM

Christina Keiper

3470 Black Cherry Lane , East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania 18301

December 02, 2005 02:57 PM

FCC
Chairman Kevin J. Martin
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET # 03-107 ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL

Subject: Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service CC Docket 96-45

Dear Representative Kanjorski:

I have serious concerns regarding the Federal Communications Commissions' (FCC) position to change the Universal Service Fund (USF) collection method to a monthly flat fee. Many of your constituents, including me, my friends, family and neighbors, will be negatively impacted by the unfair change proposed by the FCC.

As you know, USF is currently collected on a revenue basis. People who use more pay more into the system. If the FCC changes that system to a flat fee, that means that someone who uses one thousand minutes a month of long distance, pays the same amount into the fund as someone who uses zero minutes of long distance a month. Constituents who use their limited resources wisely should not be penalized for doing so.

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Thank you for your continued work and I look forward to hearing about your position on this matter.

Sincerely,

Christina Keiper

cc:

FCC General Email Box

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