

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

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

The flat-fee Universal Service Fund proposal is unfair to families and voters. I support a no-fee proposal for personal use long-distance users, or an extremely low fee.

Those who make personal calls should not face the burden of taxation faced by business that makes the preponderance of long-distance calls in this country, especially those persons who do infrequent long-distance calling, usually for family emergencies and the like.

Any taxation plan should take into account the difference between personal and business use of telephone services. When flat rate structures like this are introduced, they often wind up as a regressive tax, penalizing the poor who cannot afford to make as many long distance calls as wealthier individuals and so who are disproportionately taxed.

They may also be most likely to be cell only households who then, if taxed, will be taxed whether initiating or receiving a call, unlike traditional phone service.

This means that both methods are unfair to lower income individual and that the only equitable solution is very low or non-existent taxes for personal cell and other personal phone lines/calls.

I urge you to oppose this plan. I am one of the millions of consumers that will be unfairly taxed at a higher rate under the flat fee plan. The flat-fee would mean a tax hike for people like me -- consumers that use prepaid cellular phones or make few long distance calls.

The flat-fee is unfair, and un-American.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as high-volume residential or business customers. I urge you to reject this flat-fee proposal.

Thank you.

Peter James Foote 10607 S. Drew Street Chicago, IL 60643

cc: FCC Chair Kevin Martin, Congress

Sincerely,

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(no sales or fundraising calls please)  
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cc:  
Senator Dick Durbin  
Senator Barack Obama  
Representative Daniel Lipinski