

I was gratified to learn that the FCC is actively considering the issue of blocked access to video relay services (VRS). Please require interoperability and compatibility across Relay providers at the earliest possible date. I agree with the National Association of the Deaf that this rule should be required. See <http://www.nad.org/openrelay> for more information.

It is important for deaf people to be able to use Relay anytime with anyone, using any Relay provider, just as you and I, two hearing people can call each other regardless of who is their telephone product/service provider. Imagine if you had to buy separate equipment just because you used ATT and I used Verizon as our carriers!

Video and IM Relay have become valuable tools for deaf people. The traditional telephone (including TTY) is not practical for many of the deaf people I work with as an interpreter. The use of Relay has made deaf people much more effective and they have become more productive. However, the value of Relay is limited because not everyone has access to an individual's Relay product/service. Please end the exclusion of deaf and hard of hearing people from full access to telecommunications by requiring open interoperability and compatibility across Relay providers.

Deaf people accept free Relay equipment and software from providers; not necessarily because they like a particular provider the most; but because it is free; and allows them to make calls I couldn't make before. While they appreciate the free equipment and software, they want to be able to make and receive Relay calls from anybody without any restrictions from Relay providers.

I am a hearing interpreter who paid almost \$200 for a D-link video phone and it is disheartening that people who own the Sorenson systems or other systems can't reach me without my giving them an ip address, which is always changing. What a nuisance! Imagine if your phone number kept changing!!!! That's what deaf people are subject to with the current lack of interoperability!

I look forward to the FCC acting quickly to implement rules ending blocking and requiring interoperability.

Sincerely,

judy jonas

264 Gorden Dr

Paramus, NJ 07652