

Patty Booth
279 Long Bow Drive
Gate City, VA 24251-4584

June 5, 2007

Marlene Dortch
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I understand that the FCC is considering placing a cap on the use of the Universal Service Fund (USF) for wireless service. I am writing to express my opposition to this unfair, arbitrary proposal. A wireless-only cap is clearly anti-competitive because it singles out wireless technology, which consumers are choosing more and more over landlines. We should be rewarding competition, not punishing it. What's more, rural Americans deserve the same access to telecom services that are available in the rest of the country—isn't that the purpose of the USF?

The FCC should consider what limiting the growth of wireless access will mean for rural America: wireless technology plays an ever-increasing role in economic growth and is a critical instrument in emergency situations, but if the recommended cap is implemented, many communities may never realize these benefits. In a country that prides itself on equality, it seems hypocritical to restrict certain individuals' access to an essential tool simply because of their geographic location, especially when they have contributed for years to the USF along with everyone else.

I live in rural America and so do my two oldest children. There are times when I need to call my oldest son and can't get through to him because he is, at that time, in an area with no service for his cellular phone. I can't afford to call my children long-distance on my home phone but, since we are use the same cellular carrier, we can communicate for no extra

charge. But, since we live in rural areas, sometimes the calls can't go through. I think that is just plain wrong. We should not be penalized just because we choose to live in the country rather than the city.

I urge the FCC to vote against the proposed cap on universal service support for wireless service.

Sincerely,

Patty Booth