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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? When my Father is up north on our property I can't get him on his cell phone. He has to drive approximately 15-20 miles into town for him to receive or make a call. He is 76 years old and is usually up on our property by himself, which is dangerous! What would he do if he injured himself? He can't even call 911.

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 urge the FCC to vote against the proposed cap on universal service

support for wireless service.

Sincerely,

Demery R. Shahan