

To: Kevin J. Martin, Chairman
Michael J Copps, Commissioner
Jonathan S Adelstein, Commissioner
Deborah Taylor Tate, Commissioner
Robert M McDowell, Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington D. C. 20554

RE: **Universal Service Reform - WC Docket No. 05-337**

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I urge you to support telcom reform that ensures wireless carriers will have continued access to the USF to build the necessary infrastructure to build rural networks.

I feel the telecom legislation should:

1. Ensure that the distribution of USF funds is competitively neutral and does not discriminate between wireless and landline providers.
2. Distribute USF funds based on the most cost-efficient means of serving a high-cost area.
3. Hold all carriers receiving USF support accountable by requiring regular reporting on exactly how funding is spent.

In emergency situations, citizens/visitors involved in an emergency/crisis are sometimes unable to seek our help through the 911 system due to poor cell phone coverage. Our ability to rapidly respond in a medical crisis is especially important. Time is critical in the outcome of an emergency situation, and unfortunately precious time is often lost when our help cannot be summoned by cell phone. Quite simply, we cannot provide rapid response rescue services to citizens and visitors in crisis if they cannot call us.

An enhanced emergency service doesn't do anyone any good if they can't place a 9-1-1 call.

We've all seen the decline in wire line and the rise in wireless services over the past several years and certainly the PSAPs recognize this more than most. It is imperative that the

wireless providers stay diligent in their Phase 1 and Phase 2 deployment efforts but it is equally as important that the wireless providers have the means to build out the network so that every citizen/visitor can make that 9-1-1 call when the need arises. As members of the public safety community we all know that such a call can often mean the difference between life and death, prolonged suffering or material impact to health and well being. We've all seen the life safety benefits provided by expanded wireless service in rural Mississippi and I'd hate to see those benefits diminished by inappropriate USF reform.

Sincerely,

Sheri Hokamp / Communications Supervisor (PSAP)

Harrison County

Biloxi Police

1654 Popps Ferry Rd, Biloxi, MS. 39532

Biloxi Police Department, Communications Supervisor

228 392-0641

228 392-7227 Fax