

To Whom It Concerns:

My experience in the wireless industry has taught me several tales, but can be summarized by a few themes. First, people love and trust their wireless phones and secondly, they expect them to work in all areas and at all times. I've encountered many customers who have literally have had their lives' and well-being saved due to the high quality network that U.S. Cellular is able to provide due to the assistance of the Universal Service Fee.

Please help improve the lives of rural Americans by protecting and expanding the Universal Service Fund (USF) for wireless providers. Wireless telecommunications is no longer a luxury in our society; it is a fundamental necessity for public health, safety and economic development.

Capping the fund will shut the door on rural America. Less USF support for rural wireless networks will leave us with poor coverage, dropped calls and dangerous dead zones. The urban/rural technology gap will only widen.

Rural America deserves the same cell phone service as our big cities. I urge you to expand – not cap – the USF. Please don't leave us behind.

Respectfully,

Nicholas Nielsen

U.S. Cellular