State of Idaho
Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor

Steven Stubbs
Chairperson
www.cdhh.idaho.gov
maynardw@dhw.idaho.gov

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

Wes Maynard
Executive Director
1720 Westgate Drive
Boise, Idaho 83704
(208) 334-0879 or 1-800-433-1323 V
(208) 334-0803 or 1-800-433-1361 TTY
(208) 334-0952 FAX

Federal Communications Commission
Attn: Chairman Kevin Martin
P.O. Box 15477
Washington, D.C. 20077-0836

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

June 1, 2007

Dear Chairman Martin,

The Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is deeply concerned about potential cuts to reimbursement rates for VRS.

In Idaho, there are over 100,000 hard-of-hearing individuals and over 3,000 deaf individuals. Many deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing individuals rely on VRS for their personal and business affairs.

Outreach needs to be expanded, interpreter training should be increased, and enhanced technology should be made available to ensure quality 24/7 and 911 services.

Please be fair to those who are not able to speak on the phone without VRS service by setting a fair rate. The rate should be increased, not decreased.

Regards,

Wes Maynard
Executive Director

Cc: Jonathan Adelstein, Robert Mcdowell, Michael Copps, Deborah Tate

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was appalled to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my work and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

Sharon Lazzarino

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Caspar J. Green
19 Fulton Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner Tate:

It has come to my attention that the FCC has proposed a Video Relay Service (VRS) rate reduction. I am writing to let you know that I FULLY SUPPORT this proposed rate reduction.

My wife has a deaf employee and she installed a videophone for his use. Since it was installed in December of 2006, she has been hounded non-stop by sales representatives from competing VRS providers to have her employee use their service when placing VRS calls. Each sales representative will boast that their company has the best interpreters and the fastest connection time. They shower her office with little marketing gifts such as pens, notepads, magnets, and calendars.

All of this tells me that this is an extremely lucrative enterprise for them. They would not expend this much time and energy on one single videophone user if there were not much to gain. As a taxpayer, I am concerned that these VRS providers are being over-compensated for their service. I think it is time to let the free market influence the cost of this service. Please reduce the rate and see which providers are still interested. I suspect they all will be.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

Caspar J. Green

MAY/31/07

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JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

HI GUY,

HOW ARE YOU?

I AM FINE.

SORRY

MY MOTHER ALREADY DEAD.

MY MOTHER NAME IS MARY P. FREDERICK

ONLY ME - CLIFTON FREDERICK

STILL HERE.

I NOT HAVE EMAIL/COMPUTER.

SO I THINK SO AND ASK YOU SOMETHING.

WILL I USE TDD CALL YOU TURN

YOU TALK OUR FRIEND VHS?

IF YOU CAN OR NOT, LET I KNOW

YOU WRITE NOTE OF MESSAGE AND SEND IT TO ME.

LET I KNOW.

BY FRIEND CLIFTON FREDERICK (DEAF)

1709 W. McRainey Road
Parkton, NC 28371-9441
June 5, 2007

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

TO: Chairman Martin;
Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate

I am Deaf and I need Video Relay Service (VRS) in order to be able to place and receive phone calls with hearing individuals in my own native language which is a visual gestural language – American Sign Language (ASL). I am writing to strongly urge the FCC to establish a new stable, reliable, and predictable VRS rate for the next three years. I know that a long term stable rate will directly impact the VRS services that I rely upon.

I am a 72 year old senior citizen that is not able to travel long distance on account of the Osteoarthritis I have. I am most appreciative that I can still keep in touch with my Deaf friends who live in other states, especially Oregon since I am a native of Oregon.

Please set a fair VRS rate that encourages VRS providers to:

1) to offer VRS service to the 90% of the Deaf people who currently lack VRS.

2) to train more interpreters so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS.

3) improve VRS technology to provide reliable 24/7 and 911 services.

Cutting the VRS rate would severely impact the quality of VRS, which I rely on for my communication needs.

Respectfully, Ruth A. Sandefur

Email rsandefur@embarqmail.com
(rsandefur@embarqmail.com)

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
P.O. Box 15477
Washington, DC 20077-0836

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

May 30th 2007

Dear Chairman of FCC: Kevin Martin

I would like you to know that most deaf peoples have Videophone to use VRS to make better communicate w/ hearing peoples to be sure understand what VRS & deaf peoples to make clearly than TDD or TTY to make not clearly w/ VRS to use TTY or TDD w/ hearing peoples also sometime not to clearly to understand what they say ??

Please keep support on VRS & deaf peoples to use Video phone on "not cutting budget on VRS" in future...

Thank you for support this & not cutting budget on VRS Sincerely,

Jim R Grossman Sr
902 W M ST
McCook Ne 69001-2483

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

To: Chairman Martin;
Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate

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Please set a fair VRS rate that encourages VRS providers to:

- Increase VRS access for all Deaf individuals through outreach programs
- Invest in the training and development of additional professional interpreters
- Improve VRS technology to provide reliable 24/7 and 911 services

Cutting the VRS rate would severely impact the quality of VRS, which I rely on for my communication needs.

Respectfully, Jennifer Powell
Print Name

Email jmptx@aol.com

Print Return Address:
Libby Bernth
410 W. Randle St.
Lebanon, IL 62220

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC MAILROOM

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Chairman Martin, Please Set a Fair VRS Rate.

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
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POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

CHAIRMAN KEVIN MARTIN
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
PO BOX 15477
WASHINGTON, DC 20077-0836

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

To: Chairman Martin;
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Please don't cut us from the hearing world & our deaf community. This is a very effective way for us to communicate between 2 worlds (Deaf & Hearing)

Respectfully, LIBBY BERNTH
Print Name

Email aspen4me@charter.net

Print Return Address:
Linda Joy Cartwright
1330 Heritage Dr. # 54
Jacksonville, Tx 75766

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JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

Chairman Martin, Please Set a Fair VRS Rate.

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CHAIRMAN KEVIN MARTIN
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PO BOX 15477
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Respectfully, Linda Kay Cartwright
Print Name

Email Cartwright Linda Kay @ yahoo.c

Print Return Address:

DE VRIES
725 S. CARROLL AVE.
MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360-5620

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JUN 22 2007
FCC MAILROOM

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Chairman Martin, Please Set a Fair VRS Rate.

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PO BOX 15477
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Respectfully, DAVID DeVries
Print Name

Email DeVBLy 8183@A
co

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

Hello To you

my Name is ReedAnn

I say "even" the Deaf people have Sorenson-VP 200. But I don't have Soreson-VP 200. I don't want Sorenson-VP 100 Change I want To need New Sorenson VP 200 OK Please you give To me for New Sorenson-VP 200 OK. I Let Know To you will receivice and inform me from New Sorenson-VP 200 OK. When you send a letter. I want know Oppointment When you inform me.

Please write to send a letter me soon

thank you

ReedANN

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JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
PO Box 15477
Washington, DC 20077-0836

To: Chairman Martin; Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate

From: Print name Kathy Thomas

I am Deaf and I need Video Relay Service (VRS) in order to be able to place and receive phone calls with hearing individuals in my own native language - American Sign Language (ASL). I am writing to strongly urge the FCC to establish a new stable, reliable, and predictable VRS rate for the next three years. I know that a long-term stable rate will directly impact the VRS services that I rely upon.

Please set a fair VRS rate that encourages VRS providers to:

1. **Increase VRS access for all Deaf individuals through o outreach programs.**
2. **Invest in the training and development of additional professional interpreters.**
3. **Improve VRS technology to provide reliable 24/7 and 911 services.**

Cutting the VRS rate would severely impact the quality of VRS, which I reply on for my communication needs.

Respectfully,

Signature Kathy Thomas

Email alohakat74@yahoo.com

State of Idaho
Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor

Steven Stubbs
Chairperson
www.cdhh.idaho.gov
maynardw@dhw.idaho.gov

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Wes Maynard
Executive Director
1720 Westgate Drive
Boise, Idaho 83704
(208) 334-0879 or 1-800-433-1323 V
(208) 334-0803 or 1-800-433-1361 TTY
(208) 334-0952 FAX

Federal Communications Commission
Attn: Chairman Kevin Martin
P.O. Box 15477
Washington, D.C. 20077-0836

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

June 1, 2007

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Regards,

Wes Maynard
Executive Director

Cc: Jonathan Adelstein, Robert Mcdowell, Michael Copps, Deborah Tate

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JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Caspar J. Green
19 Fulton Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner McDowell:

It has come to my attention that the FCC has proposed a Video Relay Service (VRS) rate reduction. I am writing to let you know that I FULLY SUPPORT this proposed rate reduction.

My wife has a deaf employee and she installed a videophone for his use. Since it was installed in December of 2006, she has been hounded non-stop by sales representatives from competing VRS providers to have her employee use their service when placing VRS calls. Each sales representative will boast that their company has the best interpreters and the fastest connection time. They shower her office with little marketing gifts such as pens, notepads, magnets, and calendars.

All of this tells me that this is an extremely lucrative enterprise for them. They would not expend this much time and energy on one single videophone user if there were not much to gain. As a taxpayer, I am concerned that these VRS providers are being over-compensated for their service. I think it is time to let the free market influence the cost of this service. Please reduce the rate and see which providers are still interested. I suspect they all will be.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

Caspar J. Green

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

Christy Hughes
71 Glenwood Avenue
Queensbury, NY 12804

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner McDowell:

It has come to my attention that the FCC has proposed a Video Relay Service (VRS) rate reduction. I am writing to let you know that I FULLY SUPPORT this proposed rate reduction.

We have a deaf employee in our building and we installed a videophone for his use. Since it was installed in December of 2006, we have been hounded non-stop by sales representatives from competing VRS providers to have us use their service when placing VRS calls. Each sales representative will boast that their company has the best interpreters and the fastest connection time. They shower us with little marketing gifts such as pens, notepads, magnets, and calendars.

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Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

Christy Hughes

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
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FCC - MAILROOM

Caspar J. Green
19 Fulton Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

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Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

Caspar J. Green

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

Brooke Newell
19 Fulton Street
Glens Falls NY 12801

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner McDowell:

It has come to my attention that the FCC ha proposed a Video Relay Service (VRS) rate reduction. I am writing to let you know that I FULLY SUPPORT this proposed rate reduction.

I have a deaf employee and have installed a videophone in the building for his use. Since it was installed in December of 2006, I have been hounded non-stop by sales representatives from competing VRS providers to have us use their service when placing VRS calls. Each sales representative will boast that their company has the best interpreters and the fastest connection time. They shower me with little marketing gifts such as pens, notepads, magnets, and calendars.

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Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Brooke Newell

Brooke Newell

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

Christy Hughes
71 Glenwood Avenue
Queensbury, NY 12804

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner Copps:

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Respectfully,

Christy Hughes

Christy Hughes

RECEIVED & INSPECTED
JUN 22 2007
FCC - MAILROOM

6/6/07 Wed P.M.

Dear Mr. Martin,

It's a wonderful thing to have VRS so we deaf/hearing impaired can call up friends, etc. But as the VRS/VP-100 screen cut down and we're not able to call & report the problems that we can't make the calls or receive calls. Lots of time I'm "Resolving" & "Retrieving List" or "Network Connections" which this one is a warning that popped on my screen. This has been going on for 6 months & I finally got hold of the VRS tech supports few times to send VRS trainer to my home to check the problems & not one soul come to my house & that made me so mad. I'll make the more payment (using cable) & plan to shut it down & don't like having to waste my money for nothing that I can't call in or out for days. I hope this will not happens in the nearer future because I'm a deaf granddaughter at the age

Of three + I'm 65 —

Thank you for your attention + reading this letter — You need to fly out to Utah + see how the people do their jobs. It says it open 365 days, 7 days + 24 hrs. But no. Couldn't get the call open up as I'd tried + waited + waited for someone to answer my calls. This is the VRS Tech Support dept. Even couldn't get someone to answer TTY calls — What's going on with these Tech people? It's worst than the telephone depts —

Sincerely
Mrs Barbara Purifoy

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

To: Chairman Martin; Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate

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Please set a fair VRS rate that encourages VRS providers to:

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- Invest in the training and development of additional professional interpreters
- Improve VRS technology to provide reliable 24/7 and 911 services

Cutting the VRS rate would severely impact the quality of VRS, which I rely on for my communication needs.

Respectfully, JAYNELL JOHNSON
Print Name

Email JAYNELL@MAILSTATION.COM

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Address:
LM Johnson
RIS Ave #2
ON CA 95210

irman Martin, Please
t a Fair VRS Rate.

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

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FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 1844 WASHINGTON, DC

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