NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF STATE OFFICES OF RURAL HEALTH

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December 20, 2007

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D. C.

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company, Board of Directors CC Docket 97-21 and 96-45.

Dear Chairman Martin:

As president of the National Organization of State Offices of Rural Health, I am writing in support of the nomination of Lynette Dickson for appointment as State Consumer Advocate to the Board of Directors for USAC.

I have known and worked with Ms. Dickson for at least four years and found her to be a competent, knowledgeable, and tireless student of health information technology and telecommunications issues over the years. In her capacity as Program Director at the Center for Rural Health located in the University of North Dakota's School of Medicine and Health Sciences, she has superb knowledge of statewide initiatives related to topics applicable to the USAC mission. Ms. Dickson currently chairs the North Dakota Governor's H.I.T. Steering Committee, and simultaneously serves as Program Director for that state's Blue Cross-Blue Shield H.I.T. grant initiative.

As you know, I am a former member of the USAC board, and have a working knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of board members. To that end, I am fully confident that Ms. Dickson will use her experience and skills in a reasonable, effective manner to represent state consumer advocate opinion on the board, and am pleased to recommend her to your attention.

Sincerely,

Alison Hughes

Alison M. Hughes, MPA
President