

I strongly believe that Verizon's blocking of NARAL's text messaging campaign violates the principles of Free Speech which are critical to our nation's Democracy.

The unrestricted ability to communicate with the people and organizations of my choice is just as important in text messages as it is in voice (phone calls).

Today, text messages are being used for political action alerts, health information alerts, by individuals, by corporations, and by government institutions.

Whether or not I receive these messages should be MY DECISION, not the wireless carriers. Assurances from wireless carriers that they won't block political speech in the future are simply not enough. They cannot be trusted to safeguard my rights.

The wireless carriers must be told in no uncertain terms that they are merely supplying conduits for my Free Speech and that they may not under any circumstances decide what I may or may not say.

Don't let wireless carriers decide who may use new, important mediums like text messaging; please keep speech free, no matter what new methods of communicating are developed.

The FCC must take action to ensure that this DOES NOT HAPPEN AGAIN by making it clear that the nondiscrimination rules which have long applied to phone calls are also applicable to text messages and short codes.

Freedom of Speech belongs to all of us, not only to those who can afford it!