

BOBBY JINDAL
Governor



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FCC Mail Room

State of Louisiana
Office of the Governor

October 29, 2008

The Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman
The Honorable Deborah Taylor Tate, Commissioner
The Honorable Michael Copps, Commissioner
The Honorable Jonathan Adelstein, Commissioner
The Honorable Robert McDowell, Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: UNIVERSAL SERVICE AND INTERCARRIER COMPENSATION REFORM

Dear Commissioners:

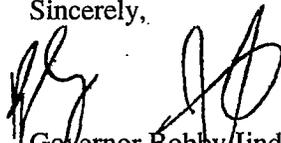
I write to respectfully request the Federal Communications Commission allow more time for public comments before it acts on a proposal that will revamp intercarrier compensation and the Universal Service Fund.

While significant opportunities exist to reform these crucial programs and expand broadband access to communities that lack high-speed Internet service, the FCC should give all stakeholders a reasonable opportunity to comment before acting on the *In Re. Core communications* Remand Order on November 4th. I am told the implementation of the current FCC proposal could result in a dramatic increase in rural phone rates, curtailment of broadband deployment in rural areas, and a massive decline in capital availability for the impacted companies.

I urge the FCC to delay consideration on the proposed order until all parties are afforded a meaningful opportunity to comment on its substance. Specifically, the FCC should issue a new notice of proposed rulemaking and allow additional comment on the proposed action so that interested parties have at least 90 days to consider and comment.

Since this proposal could have significant unintended consequences for the communications industry, as well as consumers and the State regulators charged to protect them, I thank you in advance for your close attention to the matter and your efforts put forth in expanding access to universal and affordable broadband.

Sincerely,


Governor Bobby Jindal
State of Louisiana

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