



April 6, 2010

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

Re: GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

On behalf of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) I urge the Federal Communications Commission to carefully gather all the facts and seek informed counsel before issuing new principles regarding network neutrality. Further the USHCC believes special attention must be paid to the 5th principle of non-discrimination as it could have the unintended effect of chilling investment and adoption of broadband internet.

As the leading advocacy organization for Hispanic-owned businesses, our respective members span large numbers of Hispanic-owned businesses and serve as an umbrella organization for over 200 local chambers across the United States and its territories.

As put forth in our earlier joint filing, our mission is to encourage the Commission to adopt policies that will promote opportunities for job creation and entrepreneurship during these most difficult economic times. We believe that appropriate incentives, not regulations, are needed to stimulate private investment for the expansion of broadband networks. We oppose network neutrality regulations for the stifling effect they could have on the introduction and development of innovative broadband-based products and services that would help our Hispanic-owned businesses grow.

Private investment depends on a stable regulatory climate. In recent years the regulation of broadband internet has been rather predictable; consequently, investment in broadband networks totaled some \$80 billion last year. That investment resulted in expanded broadband network deployment, including many communities that were either underserved or unserved. This investment also increased access to high-speed Internet for both businesses and consumers. Continued deployment has the potential to create many entrepreneurial opportunities and well-paying jobs that stimulate economic growth.

Certainly, more can be done to address gaps in broadband access and provide technical assistance in Hispanic communities, but as a result of the substantial investments made thus far, we have seen growth in minority segments of the population adopting broadband technology, wireless broadband technology and incorporating broadband applications to enhance how they work and live.

We continue to believe that the NPRM, if adopted, threatens continued investment and innovation by forcing an overlay of rigid rules and regulations, such as the non-discrimination principle, which would prohibit Internet service providers from managing extensive wire line and wireless broadband networks. With invasive network regulations, the existing open and accessible Internet infrastructure could not be maintained. Consequently, innovation would be limited. The broadband access that is so critically important to the economic growth and success of Hispanic owned businesses would cease to evolve and support the growing needs of businesses in an increasingly interconnected world.

We have witnessed firsthand the power of broadband networks and services that allow people to innovate and create 21st century jobs. Broadband access will empower businesses economically, socially and politically and usher them into the digital age. As the Commission moves forward it should focus its attention on developing a balanced and efficient policy that incents investment in broadband networks, so that all consumers and businesses can enjoy economic, social, and civic benefits.

The USHCC implores the FCC to take a measured approach before even thinking about adopting new principles that would subvert the substantial benefits provided by broadband internet. Rather than inserting principles like the non-discrimination principle, the FCC should take steps to ensure that investment and innovation are nurtured and preserved.

We thank you for your diligence regarding this matter and look forward to assisting in any way that we can.

Sincerely,



Javier Palomarez  
President & CEO