

Recently my employer informed us about the new rate proposal made by Federal Communications Commission. I was really disturbed by this news and as an employee of a VRS and daughter of Deaf parents I can assure you that if the rate proposal is approved it would lead our company into bankruptcy which will make the Deaf Consumers lose their most vital way of communications and their right to communicate using their primary language. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires the FCC to make available to all deaf individuals nationwide functionally-equivalent communications and if this proposal comes into effect it will force the Deaf Consumers to go back to TTY which are old fashion and not as effective as Video Relay calls. I dare to say that more than 90% of the Deaf Consumers in USA chooses our Company to process their Video Relay Calls. I assure you that other VRS companies won't have the capacity to take over Sorenson's VRS users and to handle the volumes of calls we receive everyday. I can't understand what's the reason to punish our VRS users and our Company when we have only provided excellent and honest service. I suggest we agree in a reasonable rate that would keep our Company servicing our VRS callers and keep us, interpreters, with a job we love and respect.

Sincerely,
Erika