

To Whom it concerns,

I am a Canadian Interpreter and I work for Sorenson Communications as a Video Relay Interpreter. I am writing this letter to ask that you reconsider your recent proposal to shut down VRS centers outside of the U.S.

In your proposal you question the ethics of the centers that are outside of the U.S. I am unsure why this is concern at all as Canadian Sorenson employees have the same training as our American colleagues. The concern the FCC has about Canadian centers seems to imply that because we live in Canada we can not be trusted. This is absurd and blatant discrimination.

Furthermore, in the FCC docket there was some concern expressed as to the skill sets and language used by the interpreters outside of North America. Being that Canada is part of North America I am certain that the FCC was not talking about Canadian interpreters. However, I would like to inform the FCC that the interpreters in Canada and in the U.S. both use American Sign Language and are educated in the same types of interpreter training programs.

Moreover, as Canadian interpreters, we have professional associations that reflect very closely the American professional associations. As Canadians, we are held accountable and are bound by a code of ethics through our professional association AVLIC (Association of Visual Language Interpreters of Canada). To be an employee at Sorenson Communications interpreters must be both qualified and trained interpreters as well as members of our national and regional professional associations.

I have been a proud member of the Sorenson family and have honored my job, my Sorenson co-workers, and each and every one of my clients by being the best interpreter I can be each and every day I go to work. I am ethical, I am a skilled and qualified interpreter, and I am proud to be Canadian. It makes me very angry that because of where I come from I may have my job taken away from me. I love this job. I love it! Why would I do anything to put it in jeopardy? Ethics are who you are, not where you come from.

Respectfully yours,

Renaey Carey.

Sorenson Video Relay Interpreter (Vancouver, B.C. CANADA)