

Shirl Storm

From: Site Administrator [information@eff.org] on behalf of Matthew Shapiro [matthew.a.shapiro@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2010 11:40 AM
To: Robert McDowell
Subject: Refuse Requests for Waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1) by NCTA, Charter, Verizon, and all other cable providers

Oct 20, 2010

Commissioner Robert McDowell

Dear Commissioner McDowell,

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

As a consumer interested in protecting competition, innovation, and legitimate use of cable TV content, I urge you to refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1) by NCTA, Charter, Verizon, and all other cable providers. The FCC's integration ban, which in effect requires cable companies to integrate CableCARDS into their own set-top boxes, remains good policy today.

Now ten years after the Telecommunications Act of 1996, cable companies have dragged their feet long enough on competitive alternatives to proprietary set-top boxes, thus hampering innovation and harming consumers. The integration ban will also help market competition prevent further restrictions on cable subscribers' ability to make legitimate use of recorded content.

By adopting content protection limits (encoding rules) in docket no. 97-80, the Commission recognized the importance of allowing consumers to make certain uses of TV content, regardless of a particular cable provider's or copyright holder's wishes. With competition spurred on by the integration ban, consumers would have the freedom to choose the least restrictive cable-compatible device available. The CableCARD standard already prescribes restrictions that harm consumers by limiting non-infringing uses, and such restrictions will get even worse if cable providers' set-top boxes are unchecked by competition.

Please refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Mr. Matthew Shapiro
36 Dogwood Ln
Trumbull, CT 06611-5009
(203) 685-1662

Copies rec'd 01
BY CODE

Shirl Storm

From: Site Administrator [information@eff.org] on behalf of Harry Criswell [harryc@technologist.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 2010 6:39 PM
To: Robert McDowell
Subject: Refuse Requests for Waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1) by NCTA, Charter, Verizon, and all other cable providers

Oct 19, 2010

Commissioner Robert McDowell

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Commissioner McDowell,

As a consumer interested in protecting competition, innovation, and legitimate use of cable TV content, I urge you to refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1) by NCTA, Charter, Verizon, and all other cable providers. The FCC's integration ban, which in effect requires cable companies to integrate CableCARDS into their own set-top boxes, remains good policy today.

Now ten years after the Telecommunications Act of 1996, cable companies have dragged their feet long enough on competitive alternatives to proprietary set-top boxes, thus hampering innovation and harming consumers. The integration ban will also help market competition prevent further restrictions on cable subscribers' ability to make legitimate use of recorded content.

By adopting content protection limits (encoding rules) in docket no. 97-80, the Commission recognized the importance of allowing consumers to make certain uses of TV content, regardless of a particular cable provider's or copyright holder's wishes. With competition spurred on by the integration ban, consumers would have the freedom to choose the least restrictive cable-compatible device available. The CableCARD standard already prescribes restrictions that harm consumers by limiting non-infringing uses, and such restrictions will get even worse if cable providers' set-top boxes are unchecked by competition.

Please refuse requests for waivers of 47 CFR 76.1204(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Mr. Harry Criswell
8661 Fallbrook Way
Sacramento, CA 95826-3109
(916) 383-5513

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List ABCDE

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to express my concern that the future of Video Relay Service is in jeopardy.

At no time in its oversight of VRS has the FCC taken action that would hurt the progress of the Deaf Community's struggle for equality under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

I am asking that you allow incentives for VRS providers to make more investments in VRS so that Deaf Americans will be able to experience the advances in telecommunication access other Americans enjoy.



Name

Catherine D. Kroener
Professional Development Specialist
Sorenson Communications
ckroener@sorenson.com

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facsimile transmittal

To: **Chairman Genachowski**

Fax: **202-418-2801**

FILED/ACCEPTED

From: *Crystal Anderson*

Date:

OCT 7 9 2010

Re: **FCC Rate Proposal**

Pages: **1**

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Cc:

Urgent For review Please comment Please reply Please recycle

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to you about the 3-tiered rate proposed for Video Relay Service and how it threatens the future of VRS. The rates are so low that it would be the end of VRS as we know it today. Sorenson Video Relay Service is the largest and most efficient provider of VRS. It is unfair to punish the most efficient provider and reward the less efficient. The proposed rate would cause the destruction and bankruptcy of Sorenson Communications. This rate does not even cover our actual costs. In the future, no provider would seek to provide VRS at the low rates proposed by the FCC.

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires the FCC to make available to all deaf individuals nationwide "functionally equivalent" communications. Progress toward functional equivalence will be destroyed if the FCC does not encourage VRS providers to improve VRS and make it more widely available. VRS is a recent and dramatic advancement that benefits those who are deaf, but so much more can be done. It would be tragic if the FCC were to destroy this broadband service that is so vital to the deaf.

You should be increasing the availability and use of VRS, not cutting back. You should adopt a rate that encourages continuing improvements in VRS technology. Recent developments in VRS are a good example of how the service can be improved, such as enhanced 911 services, 10-digit numbering, a larger and better trained pool of interpreters, and better videophones with an array of enhanced features. Monthly payments for broadband are a big expense for many deaf people, and instead of trying to cut back on VRS, we should be exploring ways to make VRS over broadband more affordable to deaf individuals.

I trust you to do the right thing,

Crystal Anderson

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Chairman Genachowski

FROM: Amy Williams

COMPANY: FCC

DATE: 6-4-10

FAX NUMBER TO: (202) 418-2801

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1

PHONE NUMBER: Wash DC: 202-418-1000

EMAIL: Julius.genachowski@fcc.gov

RE: FCC Rate for VRS

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

FILED/ACCEPTED

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I am writing from Davenport, Iowa. I am very perplexed as to why you and your staff seem to be proposing unfair rates for various Video Relay Service Companies. It appears you are punishing efficiency and rewarding inefficiency.

I appreciate that as FCC Chairman you have a huge responsibility to we the taxpayers. It is hard to imagine that you could be the first FCC Chairman in history to reverse progress for the deaf under the Americans with Disabilities Act. This does not seem to be the proper use of funds.

We are only asking for a predictable, fair and equitable rate for all VRS providers. Please change your mind and give VRS providers incentives to make more investments in VRS not to take them away.

Thank you!

Amy Williams

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Chairman Genachowski

FROM: André Holsomback

COMPANY: FCC

DATE: 6/4/10

FAX NUMBER TO: (202) 418-2801

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1

PHONE NUMBER: Wash DC: 202-418-1000

EMAIL: Julius.genachowski@fcc.gov

RE: FCC Rate for VRS

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

FILED/ACCEPTED

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission

I am writing from Davenport, Iowa. I am very perplexed as to why you and your staff are actually proposing unfair rates for various Video Relay Service Companies. It appears you are punishing efficiency and rewarding inefficiency.

I appreciate that as FCC Chairwoman you have a huge responsibility to the taxpayers. It is hard to imagine that you could be the first FCC Chairwoman in history to reverse progress for the deaf under the Americans with Disabilities Act. This does not seem to be the proper use of funds.

We are only asking for a predictable, fair and equitable rate for all VRS providers. Please change your mind and give VRS providers incentives to make more investments in VRS not to take them away.

Thank you!

André Holsomback

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0

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Chairman Genachowski

FROM: Steven Haynes

COMPANY: FCC

DATE: 6/4/10

FAX NUMBER TO: (202) 418-2801

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1

PHONE NUMBER: Wash DC: 202-418-1000

EMAIL: Julius.genachowski@fcc.gov

RE: FCC Rate for VRS

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

FILED/ACCEPTED

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I am writing from Davenport, Iowa. I am very perplexed as to why you and your staff seem to be proposing unfair rates for various Video Relay Service Companies. It appears you are punishing efficiency and rewarding inefficiency.

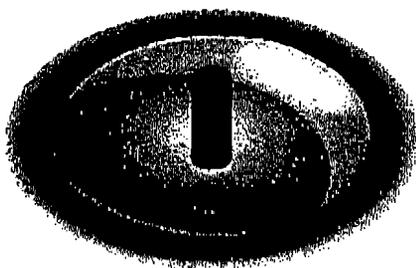
I appreciate that as FCC Chairman you have a huge responsibility to we the taxpayers. It is hard to imagine that you could be the first FCC Chairman in history to reverse progress for the deaf under the Americans with Disabilities Act. This does not seem to be the proper use of funds.

We are only asking for a predictable, fair and equitable rate for all VRS providers. Please change your mind and give VRS providers incentives to make more investments in VRS not to take them away.

Thank you!



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Subject: FAIR RATE FOR ALL VRS

Date: June 4, 2010

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

To: Chairman Genachowski

Phone Number: (202) 418-1000

Fax Number: (202)418-2801

From: Dorothy Kerr

Phone Number: 859-351-0071

Fax Number: 859-245-137

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing as a tax payer and a child of deaf parents in regards to the FCC rate proposal. I ask that you take the time to look at the chain of events that could be set in place based on your decision. Understand that Video Relay has truly been a major bridge of communication between the deaf and hearing worlds and I have witnessed this myself. My parents have actually had real conversations in their own language with their siblings for the first time using Video Relay Service.

My concern is that the three tiered plan only targets the most efficient companies that are truly in the business because they believe in providing this life changing service. The chain reaction that I speak of illustrates that bigger VRS Companies will shut down leaving the smaller companies trying to fill shoes they cannot fill in turn phasing out VRS all together if a fair and efficient rate is not proposed.

Julius, Your statement: "*The FCC is pleased to have played a historical role in fostering the innovative atmosphere that enabled creative minds and led to technological breakthroughs. The FCC remains committed today to further fostering innovation in communications. (FCC website History page).*"

"The vital work of the FCC helps facilitate both personal freedom and the public good."

If you stand by what you say then you will not punish companies for being proactive and efficient and you will propose a fair, stable and predictable rate for ALL VRS providers to ensure the quality and longevity of this life changing service.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Kerr

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June 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554
Phone: 202-418-1000
Fax: 202-418-2801
E-mail: julius.genachowski@fcc.gov

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

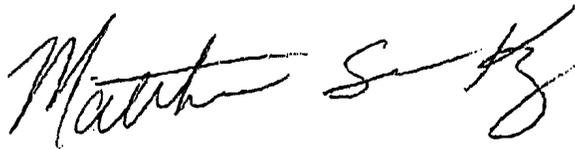
Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to express my concern in regards to the Federal Communication Commission's approach to setting the reimbursement rates for providers of Video Relay Service (VRS). VRS is a service that is crucial to the Deaf community and the current proposals, if accepted, would forever change the face of VRS as we see it today.

It is widely known that your preference lies with the smaller VRS providers. However, making a decision based on your own self-fulfilling prophecy would be detrimental to the cause for which you supposedly stand. Will your reason for supporting this proposed rate suffice when the deaf community asks you why we've taken one step forward and three steps back?

I appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Sincerely,



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June 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554
Phone: 202-418-1000
Fax: 202-418-2801
E-mail: julius.genachowski@fcc.gov

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to express my concern in regards to the Federal Communication Commission's approach to setting the reimbursement rates for providers of Video Relay Service (VRS). VRS is a service that is crucial to the Deaf community and the current proposals, if accepted, would forever change the face of VRS as we see it today.

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I appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Sincerely,



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June 4th, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554
Phone: 202-418-1000
Fax: 202-418-2801
E-mail: julius.genachowski@fcc.gov

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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Danielle Schoultz
450 N. Keeneland Dr. Apt. 506
(859) 608 - 2831
(859) 245 - 1372
dmschoultz@yahoo.com

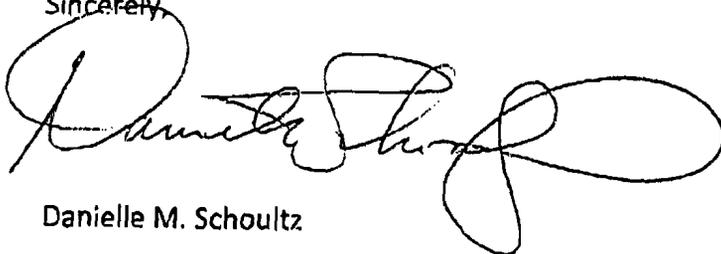
Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to express my concern in regards to the Federal Communication Commission's approach to setting the reimbursement rates for providers of Video Relay Service (VRS). VRS is a service that is crucial to the Deaf community and the current proposals, if accepted, would forever change the face of VRS as we see it today.

It is widely known that your preference lies with the smaller VRS providers. However, making a decision based on your own self-fulfilling prophecy would be detrimental to the cause for which you supposedly stand. Will your reason for supporting this proposed rate suffice when the deaf community asks you why we've taken one step forward and three steps back?

I appreciate your understanding in this matter.

Sincerely,



Danielle M. Schoultz

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OCT 29 2010

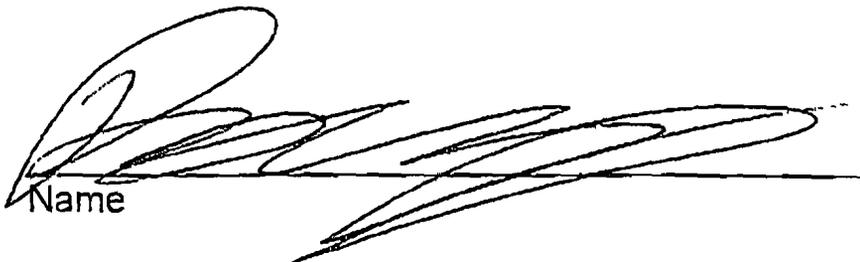
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

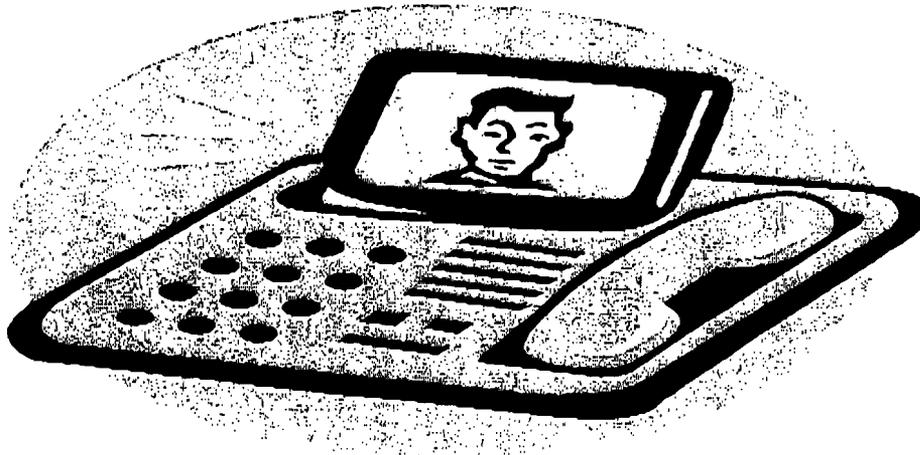
I am writing to express my concern that the future of Video Relay Service is in jeopardy.

At no time in its oversight of VRS has the FCC taken action that would hurt the progress of the Deaf Community's struggle for equality under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

I am asking that you allow incentives for VRS providers to make more investments in VRS so that Deaf Americans will be able to experience the advances in telecommunication access other Americans enjoy.


Name

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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

For: Chairman Genachowski

Fax number: (202)418-2801

From: *Carol Mullis - American Sign Language Interpreter*

Date: *6/4/2010*

Regarding: FCC VRS Rate Proposal

Number of pages: 1

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Knowing your opinion is powerful and will affect millions of people including Deaf and Hard of Hearing People who use the Video Relay Service (VRS). I would like to ask for your continued support of VRS by adopting a fair rate for ALL VRS providers, not only the less efficient ones. Not only that but Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandates function equivalence, access to all Deaf and Hard of Hearing people and increased technology that keeps up with today's technology. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Carol A. Mullis

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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to express my concern that the future of Video Relay Service is in jeopardy.

At no time in its oversight of VRS has the FCC taken action that would hurt the progress of the Deaf Community's struggle for equality under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

I am asking that you allow incentives for VRS providers to make more investments in VRS so that Deaf Americans will be able to experience the advances in telecommunication access other Americans enjoy.

Janelle Hankinson
Name

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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

June 4, 2010

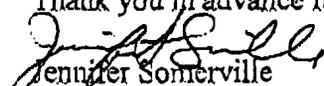
Dear Chairman Julius Genachowski:

I know that the FCC is currently reviewing the reimbursement rate for video relay services, but I am concerned with the proposed rates. As you know from the comments filed with the FCC, more than 20,000, VRS is vital to the deaf community. Adopting the proposed rates would be a reversal to the progress gained under previous Commissioners and the ADA.

Short wait times, quality of interpreting and innovative technology are threatened by the possibility that the largest provider of VRS services will declare bankruptcy under the proposed rates. If this would happen, thousands of people will be out of jobs and deaf people will suffer.

The only viable option is that you reimburse VRS providers at a rate that allows them to stay in business and to invest in further improvements for deaf and hard of hearing users of the service.

Thank you in advance for making the right decision


Jennifer Somerville
3635 Chadwick Ct.
Pasadena, MD 21122

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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Julius Genachowski:

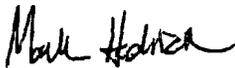
I know that the FCC is currently reviewing the reimbursement for video relay services. I am concerned with the proposed rates. As you know from the over 20,000 comments filed with the FCC, VRS is vital to the deaf community. Adopting the proposed rates would be a reversal to the progress gained under previous Commissioners and the ADA.

Short wait times, quality of interpreting, and innovative technology are threatened by the possibility that the largest provider of VRS services will declare bankruptcy under the proposed rates. If this would happen, thousands of people will be out of jobs and deaf people will suffer.

The only viable option is that you reimburse VRS providers at a rate that allows them to stay in business and to invest in further improvements for deaf and hard of hearing users of the service.

Thank you in advance for making the right decision.

Sincerely,



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From: Stephanie Criner <xbluemoonsx@me.com>
Subject: Please carefully consider VRS rates
Date: June 04, 2010 12:26:50 PM PDT
To: julius.genachowski@fcc.gov
Cc: meredithattwell.baker@fcc.gov , mignon.clyburn@fcc.gov , michael.copps@fcc.gov , robert.mcdowell@fcc.gov , xbluemoonsx@me.com

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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I know that the FCC is currently reviewing the reimbursement for video relay services. I am concerned with the proposed rates. As you know from the over 20,000 comments filed with the FCC, VRS is vital to the deaf community. I filed a comment with the FCC; I have called and written my representatives in Congress. I urge you to consider the possible huge negative impact you could have with your decision on the rates.

Adopting the proposed rates would be a reversal to the progress gained under previous Commissioners and the ADA.

Short wait times, quality of interpreting, and innovative technology are threatened by the possibility that the largest provider of VRS services will declare bankruptcy under the proposed rates. If this would happen, thousands of people will be out of jobs and deaf people will suffer.

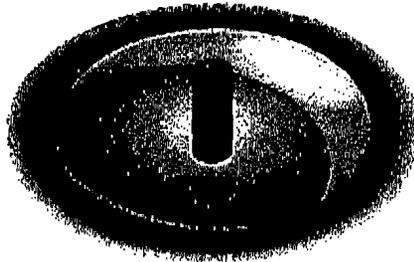
The only viable option is that you reimburse VRS providers at a rate that allows them to stay in business and to invest in further improvements for deaf and hard of hearing users of the service. Please consider the voices of the deaf community when you are making your final decision.

Thank you in advance for making the right decision.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Criner, M.S., CI & CT
Friend of the Deaf Community
614.312.0241

*Thank you for
your attention to
this very imp. issue!
Stephanie Criner*

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Subject: FAIR RATE FOR ALL VRS

Date: June 4, 2010

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

To: Chairman Genachowski

Phone Number: (202) 418-1000

Fax Number: (202)418-2801

From: Dorothy Kerr

Phone Number: 859-351-0071

Fax Number: 859-245-137

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing as a tax payer and a child of deaf parents in regards to the FCC rate proposal. I ask that you take the time to look at the chain of events that could be set in place based on your decision. Understand that Video Relay has truly been a major bridge of communication between the deaf and hearing worlds and I have witnessed this myself. My parents have actually had real conversations in their own language with their siblings for the first time using Video Relay Service.

My concern is that the three tiered plan only targets the most efficient companies that are truly in the business because they believe in providing this life changing service. The chain reaction that I speak of illustrates that bigger VRS Companies will shut down leaving the smaller companies trying to fill shoes they cannot fill in turn phasing out VRS all together if a fair and efficient rate is not proposed.

Julius, Your statement: *"The FCC is pleased to have played a historical role in fostering the innovative atmosphere that enabled creative minds and led to technological breakthroughs. The FCC remains committed today to further fostering innovation in communications. (FCC website History page)."*

"The vital work of the FCC helps facilitate both personal freedom and the public good."

If you stand by what you say then you will not punish companies for being proactive and efficient and you will propose a fair, stable and predictable rate for ALL VRS providers to ensure the quality and longevity of this life changing service.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Kerr

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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

F A X

To: Chairman Genachowski
Fax number: 202 418-2801

From: LeeAnne Huseman
Fax number: 615 373-1875

Date: 6-4-10

Number of pages (incl. cover): 1

Phone number for follow-up: 615 870-7510

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

The FCC will soon determine the future of VRS. When they set the VRS rate, the FCC will either promote progress toward the statutory goals of functional equivalence, nationwide access, and inclusion, or they will force deaf users to revert to TTY communications. The FCC's decision will determine whether VRS fulfills its potential to drive broadband adoption by the deaf, even in the face of disproportionate poverty, disenfranchisement, and isolation.

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Chairman Genachowski

FROM: Nicole Morris

COMPANY: FCC

DATE: 6/4/10

FAX NUMBER TO: (202) 418-2801

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 1

PHONE NUMBER: Wash DC: 202-418-1000

EMAIL: Julius.genachowski@fcc.gov

RE: FCC Rate for VRS

- URGENT
- FOR REVIEW
- PLEASE COMMENT
- PLEASE REPLY
- PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES/COMMENTS:

FILED/ACCEPTED

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I am writing from Cincinnati, Ohio. I am very perplexed as to why you and your staff seem to be proposing unfair rates for various Video Relay Service Companies. It appears you are punishing efficiency and rewarding inefficiency.

I appreciate that as FCC Chairman you have a huge responsibility to we the taxpayers. It is hard to imagine that you could be the first FCC Chairman in history to reverse progress for the deaf under the Americans with Disabilities Act. This does not seem to be the proper use of funds.

We are only asking for a predictable, fair and equitable rate for all VRS providers. Please change your mind and give VRS providers incentives to make more investments in VRS not to take them away.

Thank you!

Nicole Morris

nicdemorris.terp@yahoo.com

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FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

June, 2010

Dear Chairman Julius Genachowski:

I know that the FCC is currently reviewing the reimbursement for video relay services. I am concerned with the proposed rates. As you know from the over 20,000 comments filed with the FCC, VRS is vital to the deaf community. Adopting the proposed rates would be a reversal to the progress gained under previous Commissioners and the ADA.

Short wait times, quality of interpreting, and innovative technology are threatened by the possibility that the largest provider of VRS services will declare bankruptcy under the proposed rates. If this would happen, thousands of people will be out of jobs and deaf people will suffer.

The only viable option is that you reimburse VRS providers at a rate that allows them to stay in business and to invest in further improvements for deaf and hard of hearing users of the service.

Thank you in advance for making the right decision.

Sincerely,



Fax# 202-418-2801

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Chairman Genachowski

FROM:

COMPANY: FCC

DATE:

FAX NUMBER TO: (202) 418-2801

TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:

1

PHONE NUMBER: Wash DC: 202-418-1000

EMAIL: Julius.genachowski@fcc.gov

RE: FCC Rate for VRS

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

FILED/ACCEPTED

NOTES/COMMENTS:

OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to request that you support the progress made for the deaf community in providing Video Relay Service.

Please support the continuation of VRS and adopt a fair rate for All providers. Please know your opinion is powerful and will affect millions of people! Thank You, Elizabeth Heithaus

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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

FAX

For: Chairman Genachowski

Fax number: (202)418-2801

From:

Date:

Regarding: VRS Rate

Number of pages: 1

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I do not believe your intention is to push the deaf community back in time. Unfortunately, the dominoes are set up. If you knock over the first one, you'll be putting into action an incredibly dangerous set of events that can't be stopped once the first one falls.

I'd like to see you a) support the continuation of VRS, b) adopt a fair rate for ALL providers, not only the less efficient ones and c) know that your opinion is powerful and will affect millions of people.

Sincerely,



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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

June 4, 2010

Dear Chairman Julius Genachowski:

I am a nationally certified interpreter and have been involved with the Deaf community since 1994. I have seen first hand the positive impact that VRS has had on the community. I have been witness to TTY phone calls and to the face to face meetings used to clear up the confusion brought on by forcing Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to function in a language that is not their native one.

Misunderstandings are natural but are compounded at least 100 times by using a language that is not your primary means of communication. This is unacceptable when it is a parent calling the doctor about their children's health; VRS has significantly diminished these costly misunderstandings. VRS has significantly increased the quality of life for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

Please do not let this very valuable service be compromised by a rate cut.

I know that the FCC is currently reviewing the reimbursement for video relay services. I am concerned with the proposed rates. As you know from the over 20,000 comments filed with the FCC, VRS is vital to the deaf community. Adopting the proposed rates would be a reversal to the progress gained under previous Commissioners and the ADA.

Short wait times, quality of interpreting, and innovative technology are threatened by the possibility that the largest provider of VRS services will declare bankruptcy under the proposed rates. If this would happen, thousands of people will be out of jobs and deaf people will suffer.

The only viable option is that you reimburse VRS providers at a rate that allows them to stay in business and to invest in further improvements for deaf and hard of hearing users of the service.

Thank you in advance for making the right decision.

Sincerely,
Anne Marie Mancini
16 Ruth Ellen Road
Holliston, MA 01746



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OCT 29 2010

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**F A X****To: Chairman Genachowski**
Fax number: 202 418-2801**From: Bonnie Funk**
Fax number: 615 373-1875**Date: 6-4-10****Number of pages (incl. cover): 1****Phone number for follow-up: 615 972-4542**

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As you set the course for VRS, I urge you to carry out your responsibilities under the ADA to promote efficiency, improved technology, nationwide access and functional equivalence for the deaf and hard of hearing. I urge you to adopt a rate that is fair and predictable, and will encourage the innovation and advancement that have made VRS the preferred method of communication for the deaf. VRS is one of the successes of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and you must ensure the continued progress in communications for the deaf and hard of hearing.

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