

Dear Chairman Genachowski

I am writing to comment on Universal Service Lifeline and Link Up (Docket No. 11-42; CC Docket No. 96-45; WC Docket No. 03-109). As a member of the Keep USF Fair coalition, I support a sustainable, effective and fair USF that meets the goals of assuring affordable telephone service for all Americans.

Along with other consumer advocates like AARP, National Consumer Law Center, Rainbow Push and Keep USF Fair, I question the effectiveness of efforts to cap the size of the Lifeline and Link Up programs. Limiting access to these programs during our current economic crisis is especially problematic. Low-income consumers deserve and need access to low cost and free telephones to improve their lives.

I also oppose mandatory charges for Lifeline. Any fees will make Lifeline unavailable to and unused by many low-income consumers.

Thank you for your continued work. I look forward to hearing about your position on this important matter.

I also hope you can continue your efforts to bring affordable broadband internet as there are very limited choices due to the trend toward monopolies of cable, such as what Comcast is doing. With the increasing requirements by the IRS for taxes to be file electronically and now there will no longer be "white pages" phonebooks, a lot of people are being forced out of traditional methods with no alternatives.

Best regards, Greg