

This week the FCC is voting to reform the Universal Service Fund program.

The program's goals are noble - but outdated - and the agency needs to funnel resources toward building broadband networks rather than phone lines.

However - the rules proposed in the industry-authored "ABC plan" do little to promote the public interest. They just let allow phone companies like AT&T and Verizon extract billions more from consumers with no accountability.

Any new rules that you adopt must require phone companies to justify additional fees before they start taking even more hard-earned money from us. The Commission must require strong regulatory oversight in exchange for carriers' receiving this ratepayer-funded subsidy.