

Chairman Genachowski,

CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

I am a VRS interpreter and I am writing on behalf of myself, my deaf friends, and fellow VRS interpreters.

Our jobs as VRS interpreters is very challenging. One of our main challenges comes when the callers' video phone is not very clear. I am concerned with this new potential ruling regarding the deaf having to purchase their own videophone equipment. If the web cameras do not have a high resolution, I will not be able to interpret very well or at all. This will also pose a huge problem for the partially or legally blind.

As you are probably aware, many deaf individuals are unemployed or have low paying jobs. I cannot imagine how they will pay for their own video camera or even maintain the equipment if they have any technical issues. You and I can easily call others with a clear sounding reception on the other end. A blurry screen for them is the same as an ongoing static noise for us. That would not only be annoying, but would block communication.

If they cannot communicate effectively through their videophones when they are calling places such as their bank, car insurance company, etc., they will have to rely on other methods of communication such as a live interpreter. It is much more cost effective to pay a VRS interpreter a few minutes than a minimum of one hour interpreting plus one hour travel time.

Please fulfill the promises of the ADA for functionally-equivalent VRS for deaf people. Please ensure that the VRS services they currently enjoy are maintained. Karen Luxner