Chairman Genachowski,

CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

I am a hearing person who understands the crucial nature of Video Relay Service (VRS) communication for deaf and hard-of-hearing people and for the hearing people who communicate with them.

I am opposed to the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC's) recent proposals to alter the current VRS program deaf and hard-of-hearing Americans currently use.

I am not in favor of changing compensation rates for VRS providers. This cannot help but result in negative changes to VRS equipment and interpreting. I am concerned that the changes would result in a decline in VRS quality, longer hold times, and less interpreter training.

I oppose the FCC's proposals to require deaf or hard-of-hearing people to use equipment that is designed by and for hearing people and government-mandated software. Why fix a VRS system - equipment and service - that already is working"

Please consider the Americans with Disabilities Act's mandate to provide access to functionally-equivalent communication for deaf and hard-of-hearing Americans. Do not negate the progress that has already been made in this area. Keep quality VRS for deaf and hard-of-hearing Americans!
Marina Holshevnikoff