

I recently read about the FCC proposal to reduce Video Relay Service (VRS) rates. I am strongly opposed to this proposal. As a hearing person with several deaf friends, I have used VRS many times and have come to rely on it for the most effective communication with my deaf friends. I feel that if the rates for VRS providers are reduced, so too will the quality of service be reduced as those providers seek ways to reduce their costs. This may result in their not being able to employ the most qualified and experienced interpreters. Less qualified interpreters may actually misinterpret, as sign language not only uses signs for words, but also the nuances of facial expressions and body language.