

Received & Inspected
NOV 19 2012
FCC Mail Room

Mrs. Cynther A. Lansberry
1125 Laird St.
Akron, Ohio 44305-3227
VRS: (234) 525-6104

2000C

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

Save My VRS

Federal Communication Commission

9300 East Hampton Drive,

Capital Heights, MD 20743

Re; Pursuant to Sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commissioner's Rules, 47 C.F.R Reference CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

The FCC is to take away needed Functions of, Video Relay Service Phone? They already took the direct number away; this made it so I can't; call Direct Video Phone to Video Phone: Now Relay Service; is always required! I can't make Private calls. These changes will endanger my safety and that of my husband; Gene; he's going blind. He can't use hand signs as he can't see their hands, I am Profound Deaf; some medications take my voice for a time, once for 1 & 1/2 Years. If you make these proposed cuts, we won't be safe in our home. If I need an Ambulance or Police, My husband may not be able to get Help for me & I may not be able to get help for him; we already have a severe communications gap, at the times I can't talk to each other.

Mrs. Cynther A. Lansberry
Mrs. Cynther A. Lansberry

Mrs. Cynthia A. Lawsberry
1125 Laird Street
Akron, OH. 44305-3227



Federal Communication Commission
9300 East Hampton Drive,
Capital Heights, MD. 20743

Received & Inspected
FEB 19 2012
FCC Mail Room

**I. King Jordan
919 Georges Lane
West River, MD 20778**

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

November 12, 2012

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary:

I am writing as a concerned deaf man in response to the Public Notice DA 12-1644 which was released on October 15, 2012 and which concerns structure, practice and proposed compensation rates of the video relay service (VRS) program. I do not intend to "offer specific and detailed alternatives" as the notice states since I have neither the expertise nor the resources to do so. What I do have, however, should be much more important to the FCC and that is I do make use of VRS every single day and to be blunt, the proposals included in the Public Notice appear to me to threaten the very future of VRS. That frightens me.

I agree completely that the FCC should be vigilant in overseeing VRS and that the integrity of the program is paramount. I disagree strongly, however, with the specifics included in the Notice. Allow me to articulate my concerns here. Again, I will do so as a concerned deaf man and this letter may not look like those which will come to you from professionals or from organizations.

First, I am very concerned with the notion of the migration to a "standard software" which you state could be purchased "off the shelf." I cannot think of a single instance when off the shelf software or hardware produced by a major corporation which has no specific reason to satisfy deaf people has been successful. I can think of numerous examples where deaf needs have been ignored or addressed as "add ons." If I needed to purchase off the shelf equipment, then I would be expected to bring it home, install it myself and figure out how to service it if (when may be a better word) it malfunctions. The current state of affairs is far superior. VRS service providers develop software and hardware that is designed specifically for deaf consumers. They don't view us as a secondary market they would be required to serve because of federal law, they see us as their primary market and they innovate and serve in that way.

Second, I am very concerned with the proposed rate reduction. I cannot imagine that many VRS service providers could manage to stay in business with rates this low and would expect that those that are able to continue business would need to drastically reduce the services they provide and virtually stop research and development activities. Of course the FCC should be concerned with waste, fraud and abuse, but the cuts proposed here are so draconian they threaten the very existence of VRS.

I have not responded to the specific questions listed in the Notice. I don't think it is necessary for me to do so. What I am suggesting is that the proposed off the shelf software proposal should be put on the shelf. It is not a good idea. I am suggesting that the rate structure that was developed in the very recent past stay as is. Service providers should be fairly compensated in a way that will allow them to continue to hire, pay competitive salaries and provide professional development for skilled sign language interpreters. They should be compensated in a way that will enable them to continue to develop new and improved equipment and methods to serve deaf people.

I am 69 years old. I became deaf when I was 21 and for most of my deaf life the telephone was like a sore that wouldn't go away. I hated the fact that I could not make use of it without having to ask a hearing family member or friend to help me. Finally with the ADA and mandated relay service, my world changed. TRS was a way for me to finally have access to the telephone. Limited access, yes, but access. And then TRS was developed and continues to improve.

VRS has changed my life. I make phone calls almost in the same way people who can hear do. Please note I said almost. The ADA mandates functional equivalence, and we're still not there, but year after year VRS service continues to improve and my access gets better and better.

If the changes outlined in the Notice are implemented, I have no doubt whatsoever that my access will be threatened.

I cannot offer specific alternatives, but I can say as firmly as possible, that the proposed changes outlined in the Notice should not be implemented. At all. In any form.

I would be very happy to amplify in any way on what I have said in this letter. I fear for the future of VRS and will do whatever I can to help it remain strong and become even stronger.

Thank you for reading this letter. I intend to send copies to my Congressman (Steny Hoyer), my Senators (Barbara Mikulski and Ben Cardin), Congressman Ed Markey, and Senator Tom Harkin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steny Hoyer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**I. King Jordan
919 Georges Lane
West River, MD 20778**

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

November 12, 2012

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary:

I am writing as a concerned deaf man in response to the Public Notice DA 12-1644 which was released on October 15, 2012 and which concerns structure, practice and proposed compensation rates of the video relay service (VRS) program. I do not intend to "offer specific and detailed alternatives" as the notice states since I have neither the expertise nor the resources to do so. What I do have, however, should be much more important to the FCC and that is I do make use of VRS every single day and to be blunt, the proposals included in the Public Notice appear to me to threaten the very future of VRS. That frightens me.

I agree completely that the FCC should be vigilant in overseeing VRS and that the integrity of the program is paramount. I disagree strongly, however, with the specifics included in the Notice. Allow me to articulate my concerns here. Again, I will do so as a concerned deaf man and this letter may not look like those which will come to you from professionals or from organizations.

First, I am very concerned with the notion of the migration to a "standard software" which you state could be purchased "off the shelf." I cannot think of a single instance when off the shelf software or hardware produced by a major corporation which has no specific reason to satisfy deaf people has been successful. I can think of numerous examples where deaf needs have been ignored or addressed as "add ons." If I needed to purchase off the shelf equipment, then I would be expected to bring it home, install it myself and figure out how to service it if (when may be a better word) it malfunctions. The current state of affairs is far superior. VRS service providers develop software and hardware that is designed specifically for deaf consumers. They don't view us as a secondary market they would be required to serve because of federal law, they see us as their primary market and they innovate and serve in that way.

November 13, 2012

VRSCA's Concerns about the FCC's Recent Proposals
about VRS Reform

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

Preserve Our Rights

The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) was enacted in 1990. The ADA requires deaf and hard-of-hearing have access to “functionally-equivalent” communication. That means we have choices and services similar to those enjoyed by hearing people. The ADA moved us forward and leveled the playing field. That means we deserve to have access to the same products and services as hearing people.

To date, Video Relay Service (VRS) is the most functionally-equivalent communication service.

**Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) recent Proposals –
Not Functionally Equivalent**

- No choice in equipment. The proposal would require us to buy our own equipment – all the same “off-the-shelf” equipment. That means everyone’s VRS equipment would be the same – designed by hearing people for the general population. That means we would buy the same device from local electronics stores and we would be responsible to install and maintain our equipment. Hearing people have choices...why can't we?
- No choice in VRS providers. We would be required to access VRS through a centralized database that would assign calls to VRS providers. Hearing people have a choice in providers...why can't we?
- With rate cuts, quality would suffer, with limited or no choices, unreliable service and possibly longer hold times. Hearing people enjoy quality service and have ability to choose from different providers....why can't we?

You Have Rights – Make a Difference

The FCC wants feedback from the public. That means YOU! The FCC is asking for “Public Comment” – especially from VRS users – by Nov. 14th and wants responses, or “Replies,” to Public Comments by Nov.29th.

The FCC's Proposals, How to Contact the FCC, and What to Say...

- Visit www.vrsc.org to read and study the FCC's proposals.
- The VRSCA website will soon be updated with an ASL video on the FCC's proposals and VRSCA's positions on it. Soon, the website will give you instructions about how to contact the FCC and submit comments to the FCC from the VRSCA website.
- In your own words, tell the FCC your concerns and what you want from VRS, including functionally-equivalent communications as promised by the ADA. Tell the FCC not to change those aspects of VRS that you think currently work.

November 13, 2012

VRSCA's Concerns about the FCC's Recent Proposals about VRS Reform

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

Preserve Our Rights

The Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) was enacted in 1990. The ADA requires deaf and hard-of-hearing have access to “functionally-equivalent” communication. That means we have choices and services similar to those enjoyed by hearing people. The ADA moved us forward and leveled the playing field. That means we deserve to have access to the same products and services as hearing people.

To date, Video Relay Service (VRS) is the most functionally-equivalent communication service.

Federal Communications Commission's (FCC's) recent Proposals – Not Functionally Equivalent

- No choice in equipment. The proposal would require us to buy our own equipment – all the same “off-the-shelf” equipment. That means everyone’s VRS equipment would be the same – designed by hearing people for the general population. That means we would buy the same device from local electronics stores and we would be responsible to install and maintain our equipment. Hearing people have choices...why can't we?
- No choice in VRS providers. We would be required to access VRS through a centralized database that would assign calls to VRS providers. Hearing people have a choice in providers...why can't we?
- With rate cuts, quality would suffer, with limited or no choices, unreliable service and possibly longer hold times. Hearing people enjoy quality service and have ability to choose from different providers....why can't we?

You Have Rights – Make a Difference

The FCC wants feedback from the public. That means YOU! The FCC is asking for “Public Comment” – especially from VRS users – by Nov. 14th and wants responses, or “Replies,” to Public Comments by Nov.29th.

The FCC's Proposals, How to Contact the FCC, and What to Say...

- Visit www.vrsc.org to read and study the FCC's proposals.
- The VRSCA website will soon be updated with an ASL video on the FCC's proposals and VRSCA's positions on it. Soon, the website will give you instructions about how to contact the FCC and submit comments to the FCC from the VRSCA website.
- In your own words, tell the FCC your concerns and what you want from VRS, including functionally-equivalent communications as promised by the ADA. Tell the FCC not to change those aspects of VRS that you think currently work.

November 12, 2012

Commissioner's Secretary

Office of the Secretary

FCC Headquarters

9300 East Hampton Drive

Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dear Secretary,

Unbelievable! FCC cutting VRS down? To me it's so unbelievable that it must be a terrible joke. Just when this VRS technology is making a huge impact on the lives of every deaf person at work and at home, the FCC threatens to take it away! All because of the budget cuts?

I am an architect and depend on Sorenson VRS N-Touch for everyday use. I use it to contact my hearing clients, manufacturers' representatives, and to make inquiries on building materials and technology. If FCC takes this away, it's taking away my livelihood and that's just me. I know many deaf people are in the same position as I am.

Taking this VRS technology so many of us are enjoying, away will ensure hardships among the deaf seeking or keeping employment among their hearing peers and putting them at a terrible disadvantage when applying for jobs. If FCC succeeds in shutting down funding for VRS, they will see a huge spike in applications for Social Security Disability Income and thus will not be cost saving as you think.

To me, this is a boneheaded play by FCC and again they're preying on the deaf and disabled first to cut costs so that programs for the able bodied and hearing could continue.

I strongly urge the FCC not to follow through with those terrible cuts and try to keep this VRS technology for the deaf intact. I'm sure I'm not the only one telling you this. Please listen to all the other comments before making this important decision. Do try!

Sincerely,


George H. Balsley, AIA

14 Meadowbrook Drive

Hadley, MA 01035 Tel. 1-860-461-3276 Home : 1-860-254-4706 Work

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

I want to tell you that i really serious not play around.

All of the people cannot heard,why because peoples

is born baby deaf all of the world SEE !!!!!

We want to tell you,that it is really need to call to quick

Sorenson VP (Realy Service Hearing) very important

never know happeness need help that why.

" How " Tell you that all of the people deaf cannot

heard Listern on phone too cannot talk alke hearing

but really not good well lip reading SEE !!!

" Need call to Sorenson VP (Realy Service)

"HOW " List :

911 for emergency , police , pregrant , attact heart ,

fall blackout , crime , damage any things .

Family only Hearing too Deaf

Deaf communicate in Sorenson vp

deaf cannot heard on phone ring so easier help notice

when phone ring on flashlight that very important !!!!!

too red flashlight for " missing very important

need call to Realy Service for Hearing any office about

Miss Paula Josephson

9425 S. W . 84th Terrance

Ocala , Florida 34481

1

2000C

overth

S.S. office , Federal ' office , any somewhere office

**feel sick have to call to Realy Service call to
information**

to Boss make cant go to asbent work " SEE "

I hope want to keep Sorenson VP that like that love it.

Thank you,

Paula Josephson

Received & Inspected ^{personal note...}

NOV 19 2012



Nov. 14, 2012

Wed. afternoon

FCC Mail Room

To FCC, 2000C

I love to use Sorenson
Videophone to my deaf friends
all the times. I also call
interpreters to call my family
sometimes. I'm deaf all my life.

Please save Sorenson Videophone
for all the deaf. It's important.

Sincerely,

Edna Williams

EDNA WILLIAMS
40 W. BAYARD ST-#B
SENECA FALLS, NY
13148

40 West Bayard St-#B
Seneca Falls, N.Y. 13148

(315) 670-4315

2000C

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room Nov 12, 12

Dear Federal Congress

Right now I am writing this
to you

I am Deaf woman I really
need someone tech support

V.R.S.

it really help me a lot
things.

I really need it because
it would be easier for me
to call my Dr, my family and
emergency like 911 if something

happen never know?

Thank you

My name is Carolee Matias
27 Wood Hill Ct
Binghamton, Ny, 13904
apt 19

My phone number is
607-238-2886

Richard Klitz
539 N. Spruce st
Dodge, Nebraska 68633 - ~~3356~~

NO

9CC

445 12 st SW,

Washington D.C. 20554

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

Nov 14, 2012

Dear Tregg Docket?

I would like you to keep
Spending Budget on Video Relay Service
What Deaf Peoples Need interceptors
To ~~communicate~~ Communicate With Hearing
Peoples in Now to Future.

Thank you For Support
on Video Relay Service in Future Sincerely,

Richard Klitz
VP, (402) 260-5626

2000C

06-Docket No 5
03-123-10-5

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

Letter 2000 C

7 Hinckley Avenue
Lewing, NJ
08628
Nov. 14, 2012

I am writing for my deaf son
and daughter-in-law and their
friends - all use the Video
Phone System and really need
it for their communication.

Please do not cut the funding
for this vitale item. They need it
to make doctor appointments and
for emergencies. They call me
every morning to check on my
health as I am 92 and live
alone - Thanks -
Sincerely,
Elysdad M. Alford

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

I am deaf or hard-of-hearing and use VRS to contact family and friends

Share your concerns with the FCC. If you rely on VRS to conduct business, stay in touch with family and friends, for access to emergency 911 service, or for any other purpose, it is important that...
[+] more

Your Information

Prefix First Name Last Name Suffix
Ms. [v] Theodora Ing
Email
Dora5766@juno.com
Phone Fax
571-766-0760

Home Information

Street Address
5766 Rexford Court, Apt. N
City State Zipcode
Springfield VA [v] 22152

- I want to receive future alerts
- Remember Me (Uncheck on shared computers)

Recipients

- FCC(+)

Message

Subject

I am deaf or hard-of-hearing and use VRS to conta

Salutation

Dear [Recipient's name inserted here]:

Body

CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51

I am writing to provide my comments on the FCC's Public Notice on the "Structure and practices of the video relay service (VRS) program and on proposed VRS compensation rates."

I am deaf and VRS is how I stay in touch with my family and friends who are not deaf. I'm sure hearing people don't think about what it means to be able to pick up the phone and call anyone any time or anywhere they want. But for me, this means everything. VRS has changed my life.
Length : 1599

Theodora Ing
11/11/12

2000 C

Recipients

- US Senators
- US Representative

Message

Subject

I am deaf or hard-of-hearing and use VRS to conta

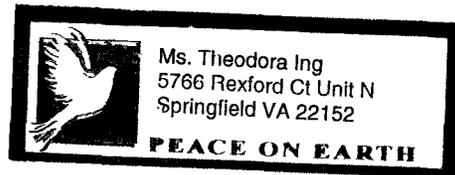
Salutation

Dear [Recipient's name inserted here]:

Body

As a deaf constituent living in your district, I am writing to make you aware of the FCC's Public Notice (CG Docket Nos. 03-123 and 10-51) on the "Structure and practices of the video relay service (VRS) program and on proposed VRS compensation rates."

I am deaf and VRS is how I stay in touch with my family and friends who are not deaf. I'm sure hearing people don't think about what it means to be able to pick up the phone and call anyone any time or anywhere they want. But for me, this means everything. VRS has changed my life.



Received & inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

20002

Dear FCC,

I am writing a letter to you and then I would like to explain it to you about FCC's plan.

Yes, they impact me and our deaf people a little bit. Then I read it thru FCC. I seem that they tried to cut all providers vrs, etc. Of course we are panic a little bit because they threat to stop vrs soon. Why? What about the hearing people? Well they really don't care about us? I love to save my vrs for sure because it is key. So I can connect anyone or my family or friends or Dr. or hospital thru vrs. It is very important to use it everyday because we are deaf. Depend vrs all the times. If they decide to stop using our vrs, we can't calling. It is wrong!!! Not fair to us because the hearing peoples can calling anytime without any problem. If anyone get bad sick, they can't calling the an ambulance. You can imagine??? Yes, I complain about FCC's plan because they tried to stop letting us to call thru vrs. I can't understand your problem. I am frustrating is FCC right now. You should think twice before you decide to keep our vrs.

Thanks

Michael W. Fry
HC 80 BOX 27-6
HINTON W.VA
25951

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

2000 C

Dear FCC,

I am writing a letter to you and then I would like to explain it to you about FCC's plan.

Yes, they impact me and our deaf people a little bit. Then I read it thru FCC. I seem that they tried to cut all providers vrs, etc. Of course we are panic a little bit because they threat to stop vrs soon. Why? What about the hearing people? Well they really don't care about us? I love to save my vrs for sure because it is key. So I can connect anyone or my family or friends or Dr. or hospital thru vrs. It is very important to use it everyday because we are deaf. Depend vrs all the times. If they decide to stop using our vrs, we can't calling. It is wrong!!! Not fair to us because the hearing peoples can calling anytime without any problem. If anyone get bad sick, they can't calling the an ambulance. You can imagine??? Yes, I complain about FCC's plan because they tried to stop letting us to call thru vrs. I can't understand your problem. I am frustrating is FCC right now. You should think twice before you decide to keep our vrs.

Thanks

Jina Shertridge

AC 80 Box 27-G

HINTON WU

25951

Tuffy_24_Bearie@Hotmail.com

Received & Inspected

NOV 19 2012

FCC Mail Room

Dear FCC,

2000c

I am writing a letter to you and then I would like to explain it to you about FCC's plan.

Yes, they impact me and our deaf people a little bit. Then I read it thru FCC. I seem that they tried to cut all providers vrs, etc. Of course we are panic a little bit because they threat to stop vrs soon. Why? What about the hearing people? Well they really don't care about us? I love to save my vrs for sure because it is key. So I can connect anyone or my family or friends or Dr. or hospital thru vrs. It is very important to use it everyday because we are deaf. Depend vrs all the times. If they decide to stop using our vrs, we can't calling. It is wrong!!! Not fair to us because the hearing peoples can calling anytime without any problem. If anyone get bad sick, they can't calling the an ambulance. You can imagine??? Yes, I complain about FCC's plan because they tried to stop letting us to call thru vrs. I can't understand your problem. I am frustrating is FCC right now. You should think twice before you decide to keep our vrs.

Thanks

Marcy Nichols
Po Box 15-9
Cool Ridge, WI 25825

JAR1679@hotmail.com

Received & Inspected
NOV 19 2012
FCC Mail Room

2000C

Dear FCC,

I am writing a letter to you and then I would like to explain it to you about FCC's plan.

Yes, they impact me and our deaf people a little bit. Then I read it thru FCC. I seem that they tried to cut all providers vrs, etc. Of course we are panic a little bit because they threat to stop vrs soon. Why? What about the hearing people? Well they really don't care about us? I love to save my vrs for sure because it is key. So I can connect anyone or my family or friends or Dr. or hospital thru vrs. It is very important to use it everyday because we are deaf. Depend vrs all the times. If they decide to stop using our vrs, we can't calling. It is wrong!!! Not fair to us because the hearing peoples can calling anytime without any problem. If anyone get bad sick, they can't calling the an ambulance. You can imagine??? Yes, I complain about FCC's plan because they tried to stop letting us to call thru vrs. I can't understand your problem. I am frustrating is FCC right now. You should think twice before you decide to keep our vrs.

Thanks

William Nichols
PO Box 159
Cool Ridge, WV - 25825

% 24 go by 48@suddenlink.net