

My grandmother has a hearing loss who rely on captioned telephone service to communicate over the phone. It is my understanding that the FCC is proposing a \$75 fee for the use of a captioned telephone. This may not affect my grandmother, because they already received her phone for free, but if she was just getting their phone now, I would be crying foul. So on behalf of anyone who NEEDS a captioned telephone, but has not yet received one; I think it is outrageous for the FCC to arbitrarily decide that U.S. citizens with a disability must pay this fee to acquire a phone capable of captioning a conversation. On a monthly basis, for 23 years (since 1990), we have been paying into the fund that supplies functionally equivalent telecommunication services for people with hearing disabilities. Now you want people to pay \$75 to third party companies before the FCC allows the funds to be spent on their originally collected purpose? We are already paying a monthly internet service charge, because internet service is required for captioning. It seems that you are exacting another financial burden on the disabled, punishing them for needing accommodations.