

I strongly disagree with the FCC's proposal to require that people who are Hard of Hearing pay \$75 for a captioning phone. Those who are Hard of Hearing are mostly over 65 years of age, and on a fixed income. Those who are younger are generally at lower wage jobs. Those \$75 may not sound like a lot to you professionals, it is to these Hard of Hearing people. Many are reluctant to buy hearing aids because of their cost, putting off the decision to buy in some cases for years. These devices are more critical to the Hard of Hearing than a telephone. Those who have to choose carefully on how to spend their money would choose not to spend it on a captioning phone.