



Rainbow PUSH Coalition  
930 E. 50<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago, IL 60615

September 21, 2013

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**NOTICE OF EX PARTE**  
**Re: WC Dockets 11-42, 03-109**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, September 18, 2013, Dr. George Korn, advisor to Rev. Jesse Jackson, and Steven Smith, director of the Rainbow PUSH Telecommunications Project, met with Rebekah Goodheart, wireline legal advisor to Acting Chairwoman Clyburn, regarding the above-referenced Lifeline dockets.

The Rainbow PUSH representatives pointed out the fact that two companies have had exclusive access to offering Lifeline in the 10 federally controlled Lifeline states for several years. (There are now 12 federal states with the recent addition of Texas and Maine to the list; however, these two states had multiple Lifeline providers operating prior to the federal handover.) While many other companies have applied, none have been approved for operation in the original 10 federally-controlled states.

Nationally, there are over 10.5 million households eligible for Lifeline that are currently not enrolled in the program. Of this number, nearly 40% are located in the 12 federal states. Rainbow PUSH recognizes the need for the FCC to carefully vet providers who have applied to operate in these states, but the process is clearly at a standstill, leaving many reputable companies with very good track records and FCC-approved Lifeline compliance plans excluded from these markets. Through its inaction, the FCC has created a situation in the original 10 federally-controlled states that is anticompetitive and, looking at the numbers, seems to be limiting access to Lifeline for millions of qualified households. We urged the FCC to act on the pending applications and open up these states to additional providers as soon as possible.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, this letter is being filed electronically. If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

/s/ George Korn

George Korn, Ph.D.  
Advisor to Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. &  
Associate Professor  
School of Media Arts and Studies  
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Cc: Rebekah Goodheart, Wireline Legal Advisor to Acting Chairwoman Clyburn, FCC, [Rebekah.Goodheart@fcc.gov](mailto:Rebekah.Goodheart@fcc.gov)  
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