



Dec. 5, 2013

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* presentation in WC Docket No. 13-184

Dear Ms. Dortch:

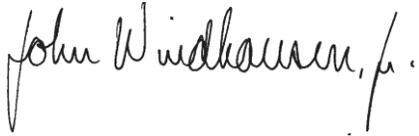
On Tuesday, Dec. 3, several Members of the SHLB Coalition (John Windhausen, SHLB Coalition Executive Director; Katherine Messier (Mobile Beacon); Denise Atkinson-Shorey (CoSN); Marijke Visser (ALA); and Sarah Morris (New America Foundation)) met Nick Degani of FCC Commissioner Pai's office to discuss the SHLB Coalition's views on E-rate reform. The SHLB Coalition expressed the following views:

1. The FCC should use the opportunity provided by this E-rate reform proceeding to carry out Goal #4 of the National Broadband Plan to ensure that all schools and libraries have 1 Gbps broadband capacity by 2020.
2. Additional funding should be made available for the E-rate program.
3. The recent CoSN survey demonstrates that both the ongoing, monthly recurring costs and the upfront deployment/capital costs make it difficult for schools and libraries to obtain the broadband capacity that they need. The reformed E-rate program should address both these financial barriers.
4. To address the capital investment barrier, the FCC should make new additional funding available within the E-rate program (in addition to continuing support for monthly recurring costs) for a Temporary E-rate Connect Fund (similar to the Healthcare Connect Fund) to pay for broadband deployment capital costs. Annual funding should be provided for a short period of time (3-4 years) and deployment thereafter until all schools/libraries have "future-proof" capacity available and affordable. The SHLB Coalition is investigating how much funding will be necessary to reach this goal.

5. The TECF should be technology neutral, including both fiber and wireless services. The current rules discriminate against dark fiber and this discrimination should be eliminated so that schools and libraries have the option of owning and managing their own network, as some do today.
6. The FCC should step up its enforcement of the lowest corresponding price rule through regular audits and through more transparency in E-rate prices. The FCC should also clarify the “similarly situated” language so that it is possible to compare schools and libraries’ prices with others in similar circumstances.

If there are any questions about this filing, please contact me at (202) 256-9616.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Windhausen, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and a distinct 'r' at the end.

John Windhausen, Jr.

Executive Director

SHLB Coalition

(202) 256-9616

jwindhausen@shlb.org

cc: Nick Degani