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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Randy D. Dunn

State Representative
District 23

August 18, 2014

Mr. Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

I am writing in support of the proposed Comcast/ Time Warner Cable (TWC) transaction. As Representative of the 23rd District in Kansas City, Missouri, I see the digital divide between the privileged and the underprivileged has steadily increased over the last few years. Our more affluent neighborhoods have modern technology in school classrooms and nearly 100% broadband access in homes. The less fortunate continue to lag behind with schools that struggle for basic resources and families that cannot afford a computer or internet subscription. Given the opportunities that broadband access offers to students and families, the digital divide is unacceptable as a matter of public policy to all our residents.

Tackling such an important goal like the digital divide will require the creativity and generosity of the private sector combined with the leadership and resources of the public sector. Comcast came to the same conclusion in 2011, when it began to develop a program in conjunction with major U.S. cities to make a significant impact in low-income schools and communities. The Internet Essentials Program provides low-cost broadband service, full-service computers for under \$150 and options for free digital literacy training in local community centers and schools. The program is currently offered to families in Comcast service areas with children who qualify for free or reduced-price school lunches. Thousands of families in my community qualify if Comcast were to serve the 23rd District of Kansas City, Missouri.

Comcast is committed to improving the lives in the communities they serve. It is in the best interest of the community for the FCC to vote in favor of the proposed Comcast/TWC transaction as soon as possible.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call my office at (573)751-0538.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy D. Dunn".

Representative Randy D. Dunn
District 23