Chairman Tom Wheeler  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Commissioner Ajit Pai  
Commissioner Michael O’Rielly  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC  20554

Re:  MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I am writing in support of the proposed Comcast and Time Warner Cable merger transaction, which I am confident, will improve Hawai‘i’s economic competitiveness and result in community development opportunities.

I am proud to serve as Governor of the State of Hawai‘i ("State"), which deserves its reputation as the premiere vacation destination in the world. However, for our State to continue to grow, we must expand our information and research sectors as well as strengthen our tourism industry. The recent recession demonstrated how important it is to achieve a wide balance of economic development, and a strong Internet infrastructure is crucial to this goal and to our growth.

Hawai‘i has a unique set of challenges for Internet providers. Comcast has assured me that it will be better positioned to make the capital investments necessary to keep Hawai‘i competitive through technological upgrades that will bring long- and short-term economic opportunities for the State. According to recent Census figures, 28.5% of the State does not have Internet access at home. This figure is too high since we want all of our students to graduate with the skills they need in today’s economy.

I have been impressed with Comcast and what it can offer the State, especially its Internet Essentials program, which offers discount Internet service to low income families and has helped to bring low-cost Internet access to more than 1.2 million people. The State could really benefit from having this important service available to
the people of Hawai‘i. Your approval of this transaction should bring this needed service from the mainland to our shores.

At this juncture, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("DCCA"), the state agency in Hawai‘i tasked with oversight over the proposed transaction, is currently reviewing the matter to ensure that the proposed transaction is in the public interest. I believe that Comcast will diligently work with the DCCA to ensure that the proposed transaction will result in material benefits for the people of Hawai‘i.

Sincerely,

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawaii