



August 25, 2014

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

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am writing on behalf of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS) in support of the proposed merger of Comcast Corporation and Time Warner Cable. From the standpoint of both our role as the primary representative of Hawaii's independent and private K-12 educational institutions and as a member of the Hawaii Educational Networking Consortium (HENC), HAIS thinks that this merger will work and that Comcast will continue or improve on the level of support that Time Warner has provided to our schools over the years. We have met several times with representatives of Comcast and also conducted a bit of research on our own, and it looks as though Comcast has a good reputation as a community partner committed to education and youth development wherever it provides services.

We know that the need for voice, data and video services in our schools will continue to increase in the coming years, likely at an exponential rate as more and more of our learning environments become virtual and 24/7 in scope. Comcast has supported the network technology needs, and in particular digital literacy initiatives, in the many cities where it currently operates, and we assume that it will do the same here in Hawaii.

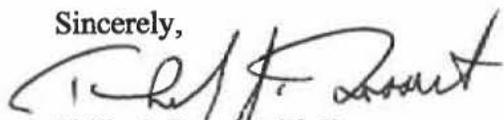
We were also interested to learn about Comcast's Digital Connectors program that was launched five years ago, and that has equipped hundreds of community computer labs and trained thousands of high school students in basic digital literacy skills. These students not only gain the digital skills that will enable them to succeed in the future, but they then become "digital ambassadors" in their own communities, helping to promote the importance of computer and Internet use. HAIS would welcome and help to promote such a program here in Hawaii.

We were also informed about Comcast's Internet Essentials program that offers families with children eligible for the National School Lunch Program home Internet service for only

\$9.95 per month, along with free digital skills training and the option to purchase a heavily-subsidized computer. This program could have a strong and lasting impact on our state where some 113,000 children participate in the NSLP and eligibility rates among school-aged students exceed 50% on the Big Island alone. The timing of a program like this could not be better given the Governor's commitment to one-to-one Internet devices for all of Hawaii's public school students during the coming years.

Comcast's commitment to improving academic and professional opportunities for young people, both through the various programs described above and through its recent investments in bringing its broadband services to schools and libraries, makes it a very attractive potential partner to public and independent schools alike. HAIS and its member schools hope you will consider these factors when weighing approval of this transaction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip J. Bossert". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name below.

Philip J. Bossert, Ph.D.  
Director of Programs