



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PAT MCCRORY
GOVERNOR

August 25, 2014

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

One of my priorities as Governor is to build superior technology infrastructure throughout our state to level the playing field for each citizen regardless of where located, regardless of where his or her workplace is located and for each patient seeking medical care using tele-health technology.

As we discussed in our last meeting, broadband is not the luxury it was just a few years ago. It is a vital component of our economic and educational infrastructure. Attracting new businesses and retaining those that increasingly operate in a global marketplace necessitate state-of-the-art technology in every corner of our state. Similarly, broadband access is an essential cornerstone of my education and economic priorities.

Building a reliable, high-capacity network is costly. We hope the conditions and requirements of this agreement ensure the proposed merger of Comcast/TWC will provide the capital investment and economies of scale that would make broadband expansion feasible into less densely populated areas of our state and advance North Carolina's implementation of technology infrastructure for the 21st century.

Of particular interest is its Internet Essentials program, which provides low cost broadband access and computers to low-income families with the goal of enhancing the educational experience of their children. Comcast's commitment to digital learning is further enhanced through its partnership with Kahn Academy. It is our understanding that this dynamic and successful Comcast program will be brought to all of the communities that will be served by Comcast in North Carolina.

Because of these benefits and our requests -- particularly in the areas of job creation and education throughout North Carolina -- I would support the Comcast/Time Warner Cable merger.

We look forward to working with the new entity to maintain and grow its corporate presence in Charlotte as well as to retain and increase the presence of its employees in North Carolina.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat McCrory". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Pat McCrory
Governor of North Carolina