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MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
GAIL MCCANN BEATTY
ASSISTANT MINORITY FLOOR LEADER
State Representative
District 26

September 5, 2014

Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

In my efforts as a Missouri state representative to help advance the interests of my constituents, one necessity that can make a significant difference is access to the Internet. Residents of the Kansas City metro area who have low incomes sometimes cannot afford services that others take for granted, like Internet access. I support the proposed union of Comcast Corporation with Time Warner Cable because it will help expand opportunity for districts like mine across the country. I urge you to consider supporting this transaction and the future of Kansas City as well.

At the city core of Kansas City and its surrounding communities, many families and individuals have very low incomes. Because my district is in a Time Warner Cable market, my constituents do not currently have access to subsidized Internet services like Comcast's Internet Essentials Program. I am very enthusiastic about Internet Essentials. With your approval of this transaction, Comcast will deliver the Internet Essentials program to my constituents.

Access to the Internet will simplify and improve the lives of my constituents. Quality access like Comcast's will provide an opportunity for children to go online at home and learn - a necessity for success in any educational setting in the country. The program will also benefit parents as they will be able to pursue job opportunities and other important activities from their homes.

It is clear that Comcast has strong experience working in metropolitan and low-income areas.

The Internet Essentials initiative is just one element in Comcast's efforts. A new program - called "Learning Zones" - was introduced to bring public WiFi access to urban non-profits.

Learning Zones could potentially provide Internet access to many different areas of Kansas City, not just in private households. I think this initiative would be a great opportunity for the Kansas City core and its surrounding communities.

Combining the resources and community investments of Comcast with Time Warner Cable will improve my constituents' lives. I believe this transaction can only have a positive impact in our low-income communities and elsewhere in Kansas City.

I urge you to support the proposed merger between Comcast and Time Warner Cable. The advantages a combined company can provide are important to my constituents and important for Missouri.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail McCann Beatty".

Gail McCann Beatty
Missouri State Representative, 26th District