



February 4, 2020

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Modernizing Unbundling and Resale Rules in an Era of Next-Generation Networks and Services Notice of Proposed Rulemaking—WC Docket No. 19-308.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Public Knowledge hereby submits the attached consumer letters (submitted in batches due to file size) in response to the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in the above-mentioned proceeding. The letters are unique comments from over 11,000 consumers representing 36 states and the District of Columbia who extol their competitive providers for offering them better telecommunications services, including broadband service, at more affordable prices.

These letters were previously filed in WC Docket No. 18-141 *In the Matter of Petition of US Telecom for Forbearance Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Sec 160(c) to Accelerate Investment in Broadband and Next-Generation Networks*. Public Knowledge is filing them once again, because as an organization dedicated to protecting telecommunications consumers, they are still relevant today and must be considered as part of the Commission's current docket given that it proposes to remove those same protections that were under consideration in the forbearance proceeding. As the FCC considers its proposed rules to largely remove the Telecommunications Act of 1996's market-opening provisions, it should understand the impact such action would have, not just on competitive carriers, but on the consumers that they serve.

Consumers today rely on telecommunications services to engage in nearly every facet of modern life, including work, education, and civic engagement. However, the evidence shows that precluding competitive providers from accessing unbundled network elements would prevent them from entering into new markets, leaving consumers with little or no choice in providers, and harm the deployment of competitive fiber networks. As detailed in these consumer letters, competitive carriers can provide consumers with higher quality service and better customer service at more affordable rates.

These individuals value having a choice of service providers and felt compelled to write to the FCC because they do not want to be forced to switch to an incumbent provider. The FCC should consider their voices before taking action that could negatively impact consumers across the country.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenna Leventoff
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Public Knowledge