In this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) reports on rural participation in consortia seeking support from the Healthcare Connect Fund (HCF) Program of the rural health care universal service support mechanism. In the Healthcare Connect Fund Order, the Commission required a consortium participating in the HCF program to include more than 50 percent eligible rural health care provider sites and stated that it expected rural participation in HCF consortia would be greater than 50 percent. The Commission directed the Bureau to monitor and report to the Commission on rural participation in the HCF program by September 15, 2015. Pursuant to the Commission’s directive, the Bureau reports that, as of August 31, 2015, there are 76 consortia participating in the HCF Program and rural participation in these consortia stands at 79.90 percent.

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