



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Released: December 15, 2015

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU INVITES COMMENT ON PETITION FOR RULEMAKING FILED BY SCHOOLS, HEALTH, & LIBRARIES BROADBAND COALITION, CALIFORNIA TELEHEALTH NETWORK, NEW ENGLAND TELEHEALTH CONSORTIUM, HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE OF MONTANA, UTAH TELEHEALTH NETWORK, COLORADO TELEHEALTH NETWORK, AND SOUTHWEST TELEHEALTH ACCESS GRID SEEKING FURTHER MODERNIZATION OF THE RURAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM

CC Docket No. 02-60

Comment Date: January 14, 2016

Reply Comment Date: January 29, 2016

On December 7, 2015, Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition, California Telehealth Network, New England Telehealth Consortium, Health Information Exchange of Montana, Utah Telehealth Network, Colorado Telehealth Network, and Southwest Telehealth Access Grid (together, referred to as Petitioners) filed a consolidated petition for rulemaking seeking to amend Part 54 of the Commission's rules with a series of reforms to the Rural Health Care (RHC) program.¹

Pursuant to section 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.419, interested parties may file comments on or before the date indicated above. Comments may be filed by paper copies or by using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Because more than one docket number appears in the caption of this proceeding, filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket number. Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.
- All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th Street, SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together

¹ Petition for Rulemaking by Schools, Health & Libraries Broadband Coalition, California Telehealth Network, New England Telehealth Consortium, Health Information Exchange of Montana, Utah Telehealth Network, Colorado Telehealth Network, and Southwest Telehealth Access Grid Seeking Amendment of Part 54 of the Commission's Rules to Further Modernize the Rural Health Care Program, CC Docket No. 02-60 (filed Dec. 7, 2015) <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/comment/view?id=60001324308>.

with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.

- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.
- U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice) or (202) 418-0432 (tty).

This matter shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.² Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.

For further information, please contact Radhika Karmarkar, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, at (202) 418-7400 or via e-mail at Radhika.Karmarkar@fcc.gov.

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² 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*