



# PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission  
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Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500  
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>  
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

Comment Date: February 2, 2018  
Reply Comment Date: March 5, 2018

DA 18-10  
January 4, 2018

## WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES COMMENT AND REPLY COMMENT DATES FOR NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING AND ORDER

### WC Docket No. 17-310

On December 14, 2017, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order (*NPRM and Order*) seeking comment on how to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America, and providing interim relief to individual rural healthcare providers potentially affected by increased RHC Program demand in Funding Year 2017.<sup>1</sup> The *NPRM and Order* sets deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 30 and 60 days, respectively, after publication in the Federal Register.<sup>2</sup>

On January 3, 2018, a summary of the *NPRM and Order* was published in the Federal Register.<sup>3</sup> Accordingly comments will be due on or before **February 2, 2018** and reply comments will be due on or before **March 5, 2018**.<sup>4</sup> Complete filing instructions are set forth in the *NPRM and Order* and in the Federal Register.<sup>5</sup>

For further information, please contact Radhika Karmarkar, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-1523, or via email at [radhika.karmarkar@fcc.gov](mailto:radhika.karmarkar@fcc.gov).

<sup>1</sup> See generally *Promoting Telehealth in Rural America*, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order, FCC 17-164 (Dec. 18, 2017) (*NPRM and Order*).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* at 1, 42, paras. 42, 121.

<sup>3</sup> FCC, Promoting Telehealth in Rural America, 83 Fed. Reg. 303 (January 3, 2018), <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2018-01-03/pdf/2017-27746.pdf> (Notice).

<sup>4</sup> See Notice at 325, para. 177 (providing the comment and reply comment due dates); Nat'l Archives & Records Admin., Office of the Fed. Register, *Table of Effective Dates & Time Periods*—January 2018, <https://www.federalregister.gov/reader-aids/using-federalregister-gov/table-of-effective-dates-time-periods>; see also 1 CFR § 18.17 (outlining Federal Register date calculation). The Notice erroneously listed the due date for reply comments on page 303 as February 20, 2018. The correct date for reply comments is on or before March 5, 2018 consistent with the reply comment date provided in the Ordering Clause, para. 177, of the Notice.

<sup>5</sup> *NPRM and Order* at 42-43, paras. 121-26; Notice at 325, paras. 170-75.