

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 28, 2009

Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**1205**

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

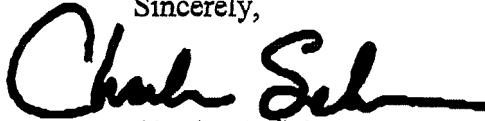
I write to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) expeditiously review the denial of a resident of Yonkers, NY to enroll in the TracFone prepaid cellular telephone service's SafeLink Wireless program. At least one resident of the Regency Extended Care Center in Yonkers was denied a subscription to the SafeLink-- a discounted or free telephone service based on income-eligibility-- because SafeLink is only able to enroll one consumer per household address. This is problematic because the Regency Extended Care Center, which is a nursing home, houses multiple residencies. I ask that FCC review what I believe to be an error in denying SafeLink service.

SafeLink is an important resource to consumers who cannot afford cellular telephone service. In a world that is becoming increasingly dependent on the ability to communicate quickly, it is important that low-income consumers are not denied access to telecommunications technology. Cellular telephones are important tools that help consumers, especially those that are elderly, remain in close contact with family members and emergency services personnel.

While I appreciate that SafeLink is a public service that is subjected to funding constraints, and therefore only one subscription is awarded per household, I believe that the denial of a nursing home resident was made in error. I ask that FCC look at the circumstances surrounding the Regency Extended Care Center in Yonkers, as well as any other instances of residents of buildings with multiple households, so that we can ensure no one is denied access to cellular telephone service.

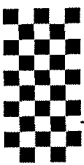
Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Katie Kulpa in my Washington, DC office at 202-224-6542.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chuck Schumer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator

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Office of United States Senator

# CHARLES E. SCHUMER

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TO: Chairman Genachowski

OF: FCC

FAX: 202-418-2804

FROM: Senator Schumer

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DATE: 07/28/09

COMMENTS: