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April 12, 2011

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The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing with regard to the FCC's efforts to reform the Universal Service Fund and Intercarrier Compensation regime. The recently announced NPRM to address these issues is a step in the right direction, especially as you attempt to introduce reforms that result in less waste, improved efficiency, and more accountability for ratepayer dollars.

One area I would like to highlight is the continued need for access to consumer-driven services, such as the range of toll conferencing options. As you know, millions of consumers, small businesses, educational institutions, and other non-profits rely on these services daily.

I am confident there are pricing solutions that would provide a level playing field for all telecommunications carriers and service providers in urban and rural areas, while eliminating the incentives for abuse. While the NPRM properly outlines the issues surrounding access stimulation, I urge the FCC to closely examine solutions that will allow legitimate telecommunication carriers and service providers the opportunity to offer such valuable consumers services and continue to encourage investment in underserved areas.

Thank you for your work on this important issue and I look forward to working with you to resolve this issue in a way that protects all American consumers and businesses. With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

*Cliff Stearns*Cliff Stearns
United States Representative

CS:mm

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