



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
United States Senate
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Blumenthal:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's efforts to bring more competition to the business data services (BDS) market and sharing your views about the Commission's interim condition regarding access to wholesale voice service.

I agree that the marketplace for wholesale voice service is important to businesses and the consumers they serve. Consumers win when businesses and organizations have choices among voice services because these entities are able to provide more and better services and products at lower cost. The Commission has recognized that "commercial wholesale platform services" play an important role in competitive carriers' provision of voice service to multi-location enterprise customers.

To provide greater certainty and clarity with respect to enterprise voice service, in August 2015 the Commission adopted the interim requirement that incumbent carriers seeking to discontinue legacy TDM services and transition to an all-Internet Protocol environment must continue to provide commercial wholesale platform services at reasonably comparable rates, terms, and conditions. The Commission provided that this interim requirement will sunset when new business data services (BDS) rules and/or policies are effective. As you state and as the Commission recognized, BDS and wholesale voice are distinct services, but the Commission adopted this time limitation to provide a definitive point in the future at which it could reassess the efficacy and necessity of this interim requirement. The United States Telecom Association has challenged this interim requirement in court, and my staff is defending it vigorously.

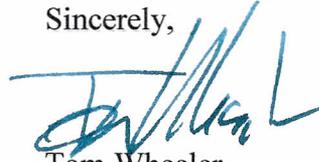
The Commission has an open rulemaking asking how we can best facilitate the continuation of commercial wholesale platform services used by competitive carriers for multi-location voice services. Staff is actively meeting with interested parties and reviewing submissions on this important issue.

Page 2—The Honorable Richard Blumenthal

Thank you again for reaching out to me with your perspectives. I have asked that your letter be added to the record of the BDS and technology transitions proceedings so that it can be considered as part of the public record that informs the next steps in those proceedings.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Mike Doyle
U.S. House of Representatives
239 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Doyle:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's efforts to bring more competition to the business data services (BDS) market and sharing your views about the Commission's interim condition regarding access to wholesale voice service.

I agree that the marketplace for wholesale voice service is important to businesses and the consumers they serve. Consumers win when businesses and organizations have choices among voice services because these entities are able to provide more and better services and products at lower cost. The Commission has recognized that "commercial wholesale platform services" play an important role in competitive carriers' provision of voice service to multi-location enterprise customers.

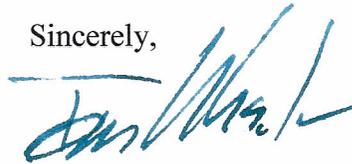
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Tom Wheeler

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR LEADERSHIP
ON THIS!



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo
U.S. House of Representatives
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's efforts to bring more competition to the business data services (BDS) market and sharing your views about the Commission's interim condition regarding access to wholesale voice service.

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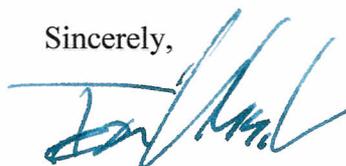
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Tom Wheeler



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

September 7, 2016

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's efforts to bring more competition to the business data services (BDS) market and sharing your views about the Commission's interim condition regarding access to wholesale voice service.

I agree that the marketplace for wholesale voice service is important to businesses and the consumers they serve. Consumers win when businesses and organizations have choices among voice services because these entities are able to provide more and better services and products at lower cost. The Commission has recognized that "commercial wholesale platform services" play an important role in competitive carriers' provision of voice service to multi-location enterprise customers.

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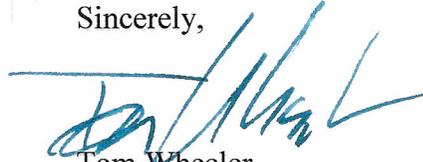
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Tom Wheeler



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OFFICE OF
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September 7, 2016

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

Thank you for your letter supporting the Commission's efforts to bring more competition to the business data services (BDS) market and sharing your views about the Commission's interim condition regarding access to wholesale voice service.

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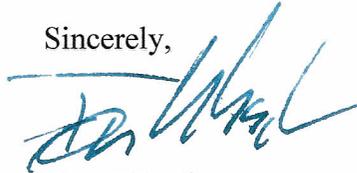
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