



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
ACTING CHAIRWOMAN

October 13, 2021

The Honorable Susan Collins  
United State Senate  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Collins:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Maine Public Utilities Commission's petitions requesting actions to prevent the exhaustion of the 207 area code. As your letter highlights, the 207 area code, the only area code in use in the state since the development of the area code system in 1947, is significant to the residents, businesses, and culture of Maine.

The Maine Public Utilities Commission has filed two petitions with the Federal Communications Commission requesting that the FCC take action to preserve numbers so as to avoid the exhaustion of the 207 area code. The first petition requests approval to conduct a trial of individual number pooling. Currently, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator assigns blocks of one thousand numbers, and on occasion, ten thousand numbers, at a time to carriers. The Maine Public Utilities Commission contends that this process can result in the wasteful use of numbers, and seeks the opportunity to experiment with allocating numbers to carriers on an individual basis. In the second related petition, the Maine Public Utilities Commission requests that the Federal Communications Commission direct the North American Numbering Plan Administrator to report on the technical, operational, and cost requirements of a trial of individual number pooling. The Maine Public Utilities Commission reports that it has worked with carriers over the past several years to return thousands of unused numbers in the 207 area code to the available numbering pool. Despite the Maine Public Utilities Commission's efforts, the North American Numbering Plan Administrator still projects that a second area code will be needed in Maine by 2024.

On August 18, 2021, the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau released a Public Notice seeking comment on the Maine Public Utilities Commission's petitions. We look forward to developing a robust record in response to the petitions. Comments were due on September 17 and reply comments were due on October 4, 2021. Although the comment dates have passed, parties may continue to file written submissions in the docket pursuant to the FCC's ex parte rules. Please be assured that we will take into consideration the views presented by all stakeholders, including those of your constituents, regarding this matter. FCC staff also will be available to meet with your staff and address any technical questions as we evaluate the issues raised in the record.

I hope this information is helpful. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Rosenworcel", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jessica Rosenworcel



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
ACTING CHAIRWOMAN

October 13, 2021

The Honorable Jared Golden  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1222 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Golden:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Maine Public Utilities Commission's petitions requesting actions to prevent the exhaustion of the 207 area code. As your letter highlights, the 207 area code, the only area code in use in the state since the development of the area code system in 1947, is significant to the residents, businesses, and culture of Maine.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
ACTING CHAIRWOMAN

October 13, 2021

The Honorable Angus King  
United State Senate  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator King:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Maine Public Utilities Commission's petitions requesting actions to prevent the exhaustion of the 207 area code. As your letter highlights, the 207 area code, the only area code in use in the state since the development of the area code system in 1947, is significant to the residents, businesses, and culture of Maine.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE  
ACTING CHAIRWOMAN

October 13, 2021

The Honorable Chellie Pingree  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2162 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Pingree:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Maine Public Utilities Commission's petitions requesting actions to prevent the exhaustion of the 207 area code. As your letter highlights, the 207 area code, the only area code in use in the state since the development of the area code system in 1947, is significant to the residents, businesses, and culture of Maine.

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