

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4606

March 25, 2015

The Honorable Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am writing in relation to the planned vote in the Commission's open meeting on March 26, 2015 on the selection of a Local Number Portability Administrator (LNPA). Following multiple briefings with stakeholders and the FCC, I remain concerned with the management of national, state, and local security and potential transition issues.

I have previously expressed my strong belief that national security concerns identified by the FBI and the Intelligence Community's Review Group need be taken into account as the FCC decides on the selection of the Administrator. I appreciate your assurances that throughout the selection process and thereafter you will do whatever is necessary to ensure that the LNP system meets highly rigorous standards for security and reliability for the nation.

However, I am concerned that, should there be a decision to make a transition to a new LNPA at this time, there is not a system in place to fully mitigate the potential national security implications, complications and costs that could affect U.S. security and law enforcement agencies, as well as small- and medium-sized carriers and telephone customers. A transition of this magnitude would be the first of its kind for the LNP system, should be managed extremely closely to ensure that security and other concerns are addressed, and should not be undertaken precipitously, before the potential risks and complications are fully studied and mitigated.

I believe you would agree that the U.S. government has a considerable interest in ensuring that the LNP system operates smoothly and securely, and that the FCC has responsibility throughout to fully ensure that it is able to oversee the mitigation of any security risks.

Along these lines, who will be responsible for ensuring that that these security concerns from law enforcement agencies are addressed and that any transition runs smoothly? Will the Commission appoint a transition manager or managers? How will local and state government entities, law enforcement, service providers, and others have the critical input necessary as the transition proceeds? Will specific requirements be created as a demarcation before the current Administrator is released from its contract, such as cyber security and disaster recovery plans?

I urge you to expeditiously provide answers to these questions so that these serious issues are addressed in a comprehensive manner prior to beginning such a complex undertaking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark R. Warner". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mark R. Warner
United States Senator