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August 2, 2012

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

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3204

COMMITTEES:
FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING MEMBER, INTERNATIONAL
MONETARY POLICY AND TRADE
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND
CONSUMER CREDIT

EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY,
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

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Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing in regards to the proposed agreement between Verizon Wireless and four of the nation's leading cable companies - Comcast, Time Warner Cable, Cox, and Bright House Networks.

As you know, the proposed deal would allow for the above cable companies to offer a "quadruple play" of video, internet, voice, and wireless service and allow Verizon Wireless to purchase wireless spectrum from the companies in turn.

The 1996 Telecommunications Act speaks to the benefits of competition between cable and phone companies. I would ask you to consider whether the proposed agreement, as written, would endanger the benefits of competition which include, but are not limited to, fairer prices for consumers, diversity of product choices, and stable jobs.

Specifically, I want to make sure that the joint marketing agreements stipulated in the proposal in which both Verizon and the aforementioned cable companies will agree to promote and sell each other's products and services are fair to consumers and American workers.

Especially considering the national unemployment rate, I believe that each agency and department has a distinct duty to protect the public interest. I want to make sure that any business deal does not exacerbate our nation's current economic woes.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to each of your replies.

Sincerely,


Carolyn McCarthy
Member of Congress

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