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May 20, 2010

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

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I write regarding the Commission's April 30, 2010, Public Notice regarding annual payment formulas and funding requirement estimates for the Interstate TRS Fund for the 2010-2011 Fund year.

Title IV of the Americans with Disabilities Act requires the Commission to ensure that telecommunications carriers offer telephone services to individuals with hearing or speech disabilities that allow them to communicate with individuals without hearing impairments. This requirement has been interpreted to include intrastate and interstate video relay service (VRS).

As the Commission proceeds with its Public Notice addressing rates for the 2010-2011 Fund year, I urge you to ensure that VRS rates account for the actual costs of providing the service, such as costs of customer equipment and installation, so that VRS providers may continue to offer this valuable service. As always, the Commission should also ensure continued oversight of the VRS program.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Rick Boucher
Member of Congress

Handwritten notes:
CAB
ADA TRS
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