

November 17, 2014

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: ***Modernizing the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries***

Dear Chairman Wheeler, Commissioner Clyburn, Commissioner Rosenworcel, Commissioner Pai, and Commissioner O'Rielly:

I am writing today in support of Chairman Wheeler's proposal to permanently increase the E-rate funding cap. The E-rate program has been widely successful in helping schools and libraries connect to the Internet. An increase in the fund will further enable applicants to enhance their network capacity, putting E-rate services to good use in the hands of students and library patrons.

The need for additional E-rate support is documented by 17 years of empirical funding request data. Survey after survey of applicants indicate that Internet capacity is lagging behind in our nation's schools and libraries. Recognizing this need, you took an important first step last July with the *E-rate Modernization Order*; but even those much-needed improvements will prove to be ineffective in the long term without a permanent increase in the E-rate funding cap.

You have a unique opportunity to positively impact all of our nation's students and library patrons in a powerful and timely manner. I urge you, when Chairman Wheeler's proposal is considered on December 11th, to vote in support of increasing the E-rate funding cap. Our nation's families and communities would be well-served by your action.

Sincerely,

Sincerely yours,

/s/ John D. Harrington

John D. Harrington

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