

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 6, 2013

The Honorable Tom Wheeler, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington D.C., 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

Congratulations on your recent swearing-in as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. In the short time since you've taken the helm of the FCC, you've emphasized the importance of competition policy and the power of competitive markets to drive economic growth. As you recently stated, "We must protect competition where it exists. We must promote competition where it may not be fulsome."

One of the greatest challenges to that objective is the broken special access market. As you know, special access services are critical for providing competitive choices for wireline and wireless services. Ensuring reasonable rates, terms, and conditions for this vital input is key to many of the Commission's highest policy priorities, including the President's goal of delivering affordable broadband to schools and libraries, promoting competition in the wireless and broadband markets, managing the transition to IP networks, and ensuring the availability of broadband connections for emergency responders.

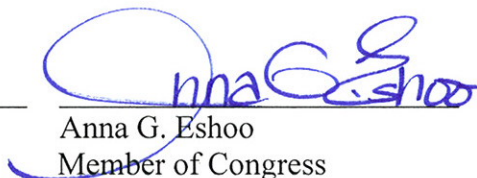
We're pleased that the Commission is engaged in a comprehensive effort to gather data and analyze the special access market. However, we are concerned about AT&T's recent notice of its intention to eliminate service plans for terms longer than three years and the effect this action, if approved, would have on prices and competition in the marketplace. By eliminating these plans, AT&T is effectively increasing rates in some regions by as much as 24 percent – which would result in increased costs to users by hundreds of millions of dollars.

Rather than allowing this effort to short circuit the data collection process now underway, we urge you to suspend and investigate AT&T's filing. We look forward to working with you on special access reform and a pro-competitive agenda that continues our global leadership in world class networks and technology.

Sincerely,



Mike Doyle  
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



Doris O. Matsui  
Member of Congress