



INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE & TELECOMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE

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*** * * PRESS STATEMENT * * ***

(Washington) The following statement was released today by the Independent Telephone & Telecommunications Alliance (ITTA), and may be attributed to ITTA President Genny Morelli:

“Today, six large price-cap carriers filed the America’s Broadband Connectivity (ABC) Plan at the Federal Communications Commission. They also joined three associations of small rate-of-return carriers in a letter proposing that the ABC Plan and their joint proposal be considered together as a framework for reforming Universal Service and intercarrier compensation to support the National Broadband Plan’s goal of bringing broadband to all of America. As an association representing mid-size price-cap and rate-of-return carriers, ITTA applauds the proposals as a promising foundation for much-needed reform.

“As the FCC considers the ABC Plan, ITTA notes that many price-cap and rate-of-return mid-size carriers are only now able to assess the impacts on their operations and customers. As a high-level framework, many important details must be worked out before the Plan can be implemented. ITTA looks forward to working actively on behalf of all mid-size carriers with the FCC and other stakeholders to ensure that reform is realistic, fair, and effective in bringing broadband to consumers served by all mid-size carriers.”

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ITTA represents mid-size local exchange companies that provide a broad range of high quality wireline and wireless voice, broadband, Internet, and video telecommunications services to 19 million access lines in 44 states.