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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-5401

November 30, 2009

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

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Thank you for your October 6th response to my letter, dated July 17th, regarding the adoption of a universal service support mechanism for non-rural insular areas. I am pleased to hear that Agency staff is working to prepare an order on this issue for the Commission's consideration and action prior to the April 16, 2010 deadline imposed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

Correcting this gap in the Commission's universal service policies is of vital importance to the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico. It is also consistent with the statement contained in Executive Order 13494, dated October 30, 2009, that it is the policy of the executive branch "to improve the treatment of Puerto Rico in Federal programs."

Given my strong interest in this issue, I respectfully ask that you arrange for agency staff to brief my office on the current status of the Commission's efforts to resolve this matter—including the specific steps remaining to be taken and the associated timeline—prior to the April 16th deadline. I would like to schedule this first briefing for December.

Thank you again for your response and your efforts to date on this issue. I look forward to hearing from your office to schedule the first briefing. Jonathan Thessin, my Legislative Counsel (202-225-2615 or jonathan.thessin@mail.house.gov), is a good first point of contact.

Sincerely,



Pedro R. Pierluisi
Member of Congress