

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 14, 2011

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

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

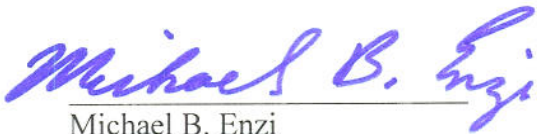
We write to urge you to take immediate action on the broad industry consensus to reform the Universal Service Fund (USF). USF reform is past due and until recently seemed entirely out of reach. However, we are encouraged by the recent historic reform plan outlined by the majority of stakeholders in the communications industry. The Consensus Framework, filed by the rural associations and six price cap carriers on July 29<sup>th</sup>, gives you an unprecedented opportunity to preserve and strengthen the USF. We urge you to take it.

As the elected representatives of the least populated state in the country, we are keenly aware that any changes to the USF are felt disproportionately in Wyoming. After all, the USF was conceived and developed with rural areas like Wyoming in mind. Unfortunately, the plan put forward by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to reform USF fell short and was met with near unanimous opposition by providers in our state.

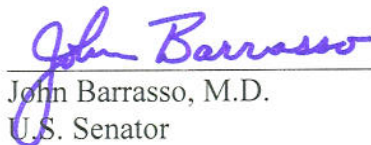
The industry consensus plan offers you a way to advance a reform agenda that updates the USF to conform to the new demands of a broadband age, brings the USF back to fiscal sustainability, and better targets areas with legitimate need. All this you can achieve with significant industry buy-in – a crucial ingredient to the success of any reform plan – so long as the FCC does not attempt to upset the delicate consensus of the proposed plan.

The future success of USF is critical to ensuring that Wyoming is not left behind in an increasingly broadband dependent world. While this plan may not be perfect, opportunities like this do not materialize often. We sincerely hope you will seize it.

Sincerely,



Michael B. Enzi  
U.S. Senator



John Barrasso, M.D.  
U.S. Senator



Cynthia M. Lummis  
U.S. Representative