



For Immediate Release

INCOMPAS Statement on USTelecom Letter: Incumbent Deal Still Leaves Customers of Competition Out in the Cold

Washington, D.C. (June 22, 2018) – AT&T’s trade association, USTelecom, has petitioned the FCC to cut off competition and raise broadband wholesale rates 15 percent. Late yesterday, USTelecom filed a letter with the FCC indicating an agreement between their own incumbent membership to foreclose competition through wholesale unbundled elements.

INCOMPAS, who represents a number of competitive broadband providers, opposes the USTelecom petition. This week INCOMPAS organized a letter to Congress from sixteen broadband CEOs warning that AT&T’s competition cut-off will hurt broadband deployment of new fiber networks, particularly in rural America, and raise prices across the country.

In response to USTelecom’s letter to the FCC, Chip Pickering, CEO of INCOMPAS, released the following statement:

“I don’t think the letter is really news. The incumbent providers cutting a deal with each other still leaves the customers of competition out in the cold, and the deployment of new fiber networks at risk particularly in rural areas. No American consumer or business wants to see a significant price hike at their home, school, or work.”

About INCOMPAS:

INCOMPAS, the internet and competitive networks association, is the leading trade group advocating for competition policy across all networks. INCOMPAS represents Internet, streaming, communications and technology companies large and small, advocating for laws and policies that promote competition, innovation and economic development. Learn more at www.incompas.org or follow us on Twitter: @INCOMPAS @ChipPickering