

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

## **The Small Carrier Perspective on the Future of Telecommunications in Rural USA**

Dear Colleague,

Please join us for a legislative staff briefing from the Small Company Coalition about the future of rural telecommunications on Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> in 2322 Rayburn at 12:30PM. Presenters from the Coalition, which is made up of rural incumbent local exchange carriers (RLEC), will discuss how changes by the Federal Communications Commission to the Universal Service Fund (USF) and the Inter-Carrier Compensation (ICC) will impact their firms and customers in rural towns and Native American reservations.

The FCC will phase in over a multi-year period changes to the USF that RLECs argue will make it more difficult and costly for them to provide telephone and Internet services vital to healthcare, education, and economic opportunity in rural towns across America. Concurrently, the FCC will also change the ICC, which governs access charges for phone calls across a carrier's lines. Rural carriers argue the ICC has helped to keep the cost of phone service affordable in rural areas where the costs of delivering telecommunications services are higher.

Presenting at the staff briefing will be:

- 1) James J. Kail, President & CEO, Laurel Highland Telephone Company & Executive Committee  
Member of the Small Company Coalition (SCC)
- 2) D. Merle Skinner, Executive Director, Christian Family & Children's Center – customer of an  
SCC firm
- 3) Godfrey Enjady, General Manager, Mescalero Apache Telecom, Inc. & Executive Committee  
Member of the SCC
- 4) Doug Kitch, Principal, Alexicon Telecommunications Consulting

**The Future of Telecommunications – the Rural Carrier Perspective**  
**Rayburn HOB 2322**  
**Monday, June 25, 2012**  
**12:30 – 1:30 PM**

For more information, please contact [Brad.Grantz@mail.house.gov](mailto:Brad.Grantz@mail.house.gov) (5-2301) in my office.

Sincerely,



Tim Murphy  
Member of Congress