



AMERICANS *for* TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist
President

April 19, 2016

Dear Members of the Energy & Commerce Committee:

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform and our supporters, I am writing to express support for H.R. 4884: “Controlling the Unchecked and Reckless Ballooning of Lifeline Act of 2016.” This legislation places a \$1.5 billion budget cap on the program to combat waste, fraud and abuse.

As Lifeline expands to include broadband access it is even more important that Lifeline have a budget cap. With more expansion there are more avenues for abuse. With clear financial parameters, the program will have to ensure that subsidies are directed only to eligible participants most in need and focus on preventing waste, fraud, and abuse.

The FCC has given itself a budget in name only. If spending hits 90% of the adopted \$2.25 billion, they can vote to increase the budget. The FCC is out of control when it comes to spending (and rulemaking and everything else).

It is Congresses’ obligation to oversee the agencies it created, and must set a firm budget cap for the FCC. All other Universal Service Fund programs have firm budget caps. Lifeline should be no different.

If you should have any questions or comments, please contact me, or Katie McAuliffe by phone, 202-785-0266, or email, kmcauliffe@atr.org.

Onward,

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