



Mr. Marcelo Claire
Chief Executive Officer
Sprint Corporation
6200 Sprint Parkway
Overland Park, KS 66251

CC: Masayoshi Son, CEO of SoftBank
Chairman Tom Wheeler, Federal Communications Commission
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, Federal Communications Commission
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel, Federal Communications Commission
Commissioner Ajit Pai, Federal Communications Commission
Commissioner Michael O’Rielly, Federal Communications Commission
R. David Edelman, Special Assistant to the President for Economic and Technology Policy
Vonya McCann, Sprint Government Affairs
Doug Michelman, Sprint Corporate Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility

Re: Sprint’s plan to shut off more than 300,000 vulnerable Americans’ Internet access

October 20, 2015

Dear Mr. Claire,

You have said you are committed to “empowering young people with education and technology so they can change their lives and change the world for the better.”

But on November 6, 2015, as it updates its network, the Sprint Corporation will shut off Internet access to hundreds of thousands of children in underserved communities across the country. Among those who will be disconnected are 429 schools, 61 libraries and 1,820 nonprofit organizations.

This is unacceptable and not in line with the principles you have professed publicly throughout your career.

Since 2010, Mobile Citizen and Mobile Beacon have offered affordable Internet access to schools, libraries and nonprofits in need via a partnership with CLEAR, now Sprint. This partnership has helped more than 300,000 Americans – children in schools serving our country’s most vulnerable youth, moms who count pennies for groceries, seniors struggling to get access to essential health care information. Sprint’s plan to shut down this network will leave these Americans in the dark.

As Chief Executive Officer, you have the power to stop this injustice and keep hundreds of thousands of children, families and community members online, preserving their access to the Internet and the American dream.

We call on Sprint to ensure that more than 300,000 Americans will have uninterrupted access to affordable, unlimited Internet through Mobile Citizen and Mobile Beacon’s network. America is strongest when those in need have access to the technology that builds an educated, empowered and engaged public.

Signed:

Academia America
Ashbury Community Services
Build.org
Burton School District
California Connect
Center for Media Justice and Media Action Grassroots Network
Center for Rural Strategies
Central New York Library Resources Council
Colorado Telehealth Network
ColorOfChange.org
Common Cause
Community Technology Network
Connect Your Community
COSN, the Consortium for School Networking
Demand Progress Action
Fight for the Future / Center for Rights in Action, Inc
Florida Institute of Technology
Free Press
Habitat for Humanity
Jump Wireless
Library Board of RI
Media Mobilizing Project
National Coalition for Adult Literacy
National People’s Action Campaign
New Media Ventures

Next Century Cities
NTEN (DIA)
PC's for People
Pima Community College
Popular Democracy
Popular Resistance
Providence Housing Authority
Public Knowledge
Queens Library
Stride Center
SumOfUs
Tech Mission
Tennessee Library Association
University of North Texas
United Lutheran Church
Working Narratives and Nation Inside
Youth Policy Institute