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U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce Washington, DC 20515-6115

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January 23, 2006

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BUD ALBRIGHT, STAFF DIRECTOR

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Chairman, Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

We write with respect to the disclosure of consumer telephone records. The protection of consumer privacy in an age where an increasing amount of personal information and transactions are contained in electronic form is more vital than ever. Consumers are rightly concerned when they learn that their personal information has been compromised. In the recent cases involving the online sale of telephone records the apparent ease with which such personal information has been compromised, obtained, and then sold, is shocking and unacceptable.

In your January 13th response to Representative Markey's November 7th letter, you note that the Federal Communications Commission (the Commission) has before it a petition from the Electronic Privacy Information Center, which was filed last year and for which the public record is now closed. We are eager to know when the Commission will complete its review of the record and determine what actions should be taken in response to the petition.

In addition, in your response, you also note that each telecommunications carrier, under existing customer proprietary network information rules, "must certify annually that it has established operating procedures that are adequate to ensure compliance with these rules, and must provide a statement explaining how its operating procedures ensure such compliance." As part of our ongoing investigation of this issue, as well as the Commission's response to consumer privacy concerns, we request that you forward to us the last annual certifications the Commission has received from the 5 largest wireline telecommunications carriers and the 5 largest wireless telecommunications carriers, along with the accompanying statements from each company explaining how their internal procedures protect the confidentiality of consumer information.

Please provide our office the requested documents by January 30, 2006. Thank you in advance for your time and attention in responding to this request.

Sincerely,

Joe Barton

Chairman

Committee on Energy and Commerce

Alden (1)

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Committee on Energy and Commerce

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Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet

Edward Markey Ranking Member

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