

Proposal to Create a CAC Working Group on Consumer Information and Participation

In January, Acting FCC Chairman Copps addressed the FCC's staff and identified his goals for his tenure as chair. He asked for help in creating a more open, more transparent and more vibrant FCC, an agency "prepared to serve the many and diverse interests of the American people and thereby to advance the public interest—which must always be the Commission's North Star."

As we all know, part of our charge as the Consumer Advisory Committee is to facilitate the participation of consumers in proceedings before the Commission. With this in mind, let us create a Working Group on Consumer Information and Participation with the aim of soliciting input and making recommendations to the Commission on how it can make its proceedings more transparent, improve communications with the public, and increase public participation in Commission proceedings. This government openness, identified as a top priority by both Chairman Copps and President Obama, can only improve the effectiveness of FCC decisions.

The agenda for this Working Group could include improving:

- 1 FCC communication with the public
- 2 Public participation in FCC proceedings
- 3 The FCC website
- 4 FCC data collection
- 5 FCC outreach and education
- 6 FCC disclosure of communications with the Commission

Adopted by consensus: March 4, 2009

Consumer Advisory Committee
Debra R. Berlyn, Chair