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Key Points on Access:

The FCC must reverse recent policies that have contributed to the lack of affordable high-speed Internet and basic telecom services to all citizens and consumers.

* Excessive consolidation and deregulation have undermined potential competition in broadband, wireless and wireline services, allowing prices to remain inflated, quality of service to lag, and opening the door to discriminatory practices;

* Elimination of important cost accounting/allocation functions and public oversight of network costs makes it impossible to force carriers that face inadequate competition to meet the needs of all economic and social groups for basic services;

* These deficiencies make it impossible for any tax subsidies for telecom companies related to economic stimulus to be able to deliver targeted and desirable broadband expansion goals -- the FCC lacks the tools and power to make companies do what they promise (and there's a long track record of abuse);

* Universal service must be updated to ensure affordable broadband to all at high speeds/quality but not by inflating prices to all ratepayers and enriching telecom firms; this must include public provision of broadband where the private sector has failed.