P-2015-2510230

March 11, 2016

Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission Secretary P.O. Box 3265 Harrisburg, PA 17105

PUC Secretary,

I am concerned about the proposed change for the 717 area code. I understand you have chosen to open this up for public input. Thank you for the opportunity to have my voice heard.

Cell phones are in almost every household. They use 10 digit dialing. What is the fuss? The public is already accustomed to that dialing pattern. The change to 10 digits is already way past its prime. An area code overlay would offer the most economic easement into 21st century telephony practices. Businesses don't have to bear the expense of changing letterhead, advertising, business cards and more. This scenario would eliminate that same burden on banks, medical facilities and 911 services just to name a few. Consider the impact on the State and Federal government seats alone that are located here. This is even more of a debacle if the area code changes and that impact will be on the already burdened tax payers to endure all those administrative and expensive changes to doing business as usual. The scenario that offers the perfect solution, hands down, is just an overlay of the new area code. "Everyone" keeps their current numbers. The only insignificant change is "everyone" has to dial 10 digits for every call.

In this day of programmed dialing or voice activated dialing, what difference does it make? I know many of your predecessors made similar decisions based solely on the demand of being able to retain 7 digit dialing. Seven digits is obsolete. Get with the current technology. There is NO other reason to force an area code split. Please get out of the politics of the situation and make an informed decision of what is best for the entire state. If this weren't already political, I don't believe you would be soliciting the public's input. You can only fool some of the people, a little bit longer!

Given the current political climate and the public's growing intolerance of establishment style politics, it is amazing to me that the government's State Agency that is assigned to "balance the needs of consumers and utilities.... and protects the public interest..." would entertain public comment on something as "simple" as a new area code. I don't know how you all rationalize the expense and time of public input other than to allow a scapegoat, but to this citizen, it sounds suspiciously politically motivated. Do the right thing to move the state's telephony forward.

Ten digit dialing is here to stay. It is our future within the current technology.

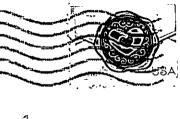
Thank you for your time,

Linda Fry 9 Belair Dr. Dillsburg, PA 17019



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PENNSYLVANIA PURLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION P.O. Box 3265 HARRISBURG PA 17105-3265

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