## **CLINTON D. OWLETT, MEMBER**

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## House of Representatibes

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Harrisburg

March 9, 2023

Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta, Esq Secretary's Bureau Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Commonwealth Keystone Building 2nd Floor, Room-N201 400 North Street Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Attention: Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta,

Dear Rosemary Chiavetta,

It has come to my attention that you are serving as the ALJ for OCA & OSBA v Commonwealth d/b/a Frontier (C-2023-3037574) and that there will be a prehearing conference on the morning of Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. Frist and foremost, thank you for hearing this case as it is incredibly important to the community, I have been given the opportunity to represent.

The stories that I and my staff have heard are heartbreaking. The one that sticks out in my mind right now is the elderly gentleman who could not contact his physician about his cancer treatments because of his phone line being out for weeks. His nurse ended up advocating on his behalf to try and get his phone working to continue his treatment.

The second would be a large number of calls from relatives who can't contact their loved ones, and those loved ones' lifeline systems are inactive because of phone lines being down for months. The stress this has caused is inexcusable, not to mention the threat to the health and safety of these residents.

Our office alone has received nearly 200 complaint forms from constituents who have had or are currently having issues with their phone lines. This make sense as I can see the line issues as I drive around the district. It's also worth noting that we continue receiving complaints each day. At times we would receive 4-6 calls or emails a day. This is especially concerning for those who do not have cell service in our remote areas.

I would humbly ask that you hold an in-person public input hearing in our district. Rep. Tina Pickett and I hosted two meetings with OCA and OSBA in our district to explain the next steps of this process. The community made it clear that they would like to have the opportunity to speak during this important hearing. The reality is that many cannot or do not have the ability to join an online format because of the very topic in this case. I believe the best avenue for effective communication would be for an in-person public hearing.

Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated. These truly have been and continue to be safety concerns.

Sincerely 0 s

Rep. Clint Owlett

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Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta, Esq Secretary's Bureau Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, Commonwealth Keystone Building Attention: Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta 2nd Floor, Room-N201 400 North Street Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

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