

Dear Representative:

I am writing you in regard to the house bill on the elimination of landline phone service and am asking you to please vote NO. My reasons are health, safety, cost to the consumer, and the fact that this legislation is being written by ALEC, a group that goes state to state writing legislation to benefit their members.

Loss of landline phones using copper wires will put millions of people in an unsafe situation. Copper-wire landline hookups do not require electricity to run as does VoIP. If there is a power outage, landline phones still work. This is not so with VoIP. Cell phone reception in many areas is impossible.

Many medical safety alert systems need copper landlines in order to function. Loss of these lines will put elderly people in danger.

Consumer Reports cautions on fiber optic and VoIP lines: "Access to 911 is so important that we have long advised customers to maintain a separate, basic copper line."

Many older people and people with vision issues or physical difficulties are not able to use cell phones due to small buttons or screens.

People sensitive to the radiofrequency and other EMFs from cell phones also have to use landlines exclusively.

The cost of fiber-optic phones will be significantly higher than current landlines. Many elderly and low-income people will not be able to afford this, which will leave them with no options and they will be cut off from the world. This is especially true if they are EMF-sensitive (that is, unable to be around many of the electromagnetic frequencies emitted by modern devices).

We need a safe way and affordable way to communicate.

Please serve your constituents and don't let corporations dictate how you vote. Please vote NO on this extremely important issue.

Thank you