

JOSÉ E. SERRANO
16TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2227 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3216
(202) 225-4361
FAX: (202) 225-6001

BRONX OFFICE:
1231 LAFAYETTE AVE, 4TH FLOOR
BRONX, NY 10474
(718) 620-0084
FAX: (718) 620-0658

<http://serrano.house.gov>

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3216

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
RANKING DEMOCRAT, FINANCIAL
SERVICES AND
GENERAL GOVERNMENT
MEMBER, COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE
MEMBER, INTERIOR AND ENVIRONMENT

MEMBER, CONGRESSIONAL
HISPANIC CAUCUS

SENIOR WHIP

August 12, 2011

Mr. Lowell McAdam
President and CEO
Verizon Communications
140 West Street
New York, New York 10007-2141

Dear President McAdam:

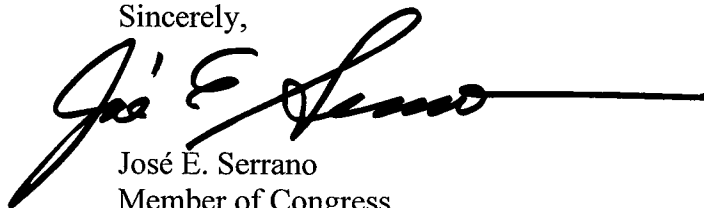
I am concerned about the current impasse between Verizon and its workers. In such tough economic times, the quality employment and benefits that Verizon has been providing to its workers are critical to keeping families afloat and our communities together. I believe that it would be shortsighted to eliminate such jobs in the search for immediate economic gain.

I understand that the company's proposals would reduce the standard of living of thousands of middle-class Verizon employees who live in New York State and potentially lead to the elimination of thousands of jobs. These proposals include efforts to reduce job security, decrease and eliminate pensions, and replace the current high-quality health care plan with plans requiring workers to pay thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket expenses and premium sharing.

While I am aware of the changes that have taken place in the telecommunications industry, I know that Verizon has been very successful in negotiating these challenges. In these difficult times, we need successful corporations like Verizon to invest in our communities, both in terms of infrastructure and in terms of training and employing a skilled workforce. Going forward, Verizon should be working cooperatively with its unions to continue to improve its service to the public and to build out new technologies like FiOS as broadly as possible.

Rather than encouraging a "race to the bottom," I strongly urge you to work with the unions to achieve a reasonable bargaining agreement that protects middle class jobs and ensures the continuation of excellent service to the public. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



José E. Serrano
Member of Congress