BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

| In re: Adoption of the National School |) | |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| Lunch Program and an Income-based |) | Docket No.040604-TP |
| Criterion at or below 135% of the Federal |) | |
| Poverty Guidelines as Eligibility Criteria |) | Filed: December 17, 2004 |
| For the Lifeline and Link-up Programs |) | |

FLORIDA COMPETITIVE CARRIERS ASSOCIATION AND THE COMPETITIVE CARRIERS OF THE SOUTH, INC. PETITION TO INTERVENE

COMES NOW the Florida Competitive Carriers Association and the Competitive Carrier of the South, Inc.¹ (hereinafter "FCCA/CompSouth"), pursuant to Rules 25-22.039 and 28-106-205, Florida Administrative Code, and files this Petition to Intervene with the Florida Public Service Commission (hereinafter the "Commission") in the above-referenced docket. Petitioner respectfully requests that the Commission grant this petition, designating FCCA/CompSouth as a party of record and affording it all applicable rights under Florida law and the rules and regulations of this Commission. In support thereof, Petitioners respectfully show the following:

1. Petitioner's principal place of business is:

FCCA/CompSouth C/o Vicki Gordon Kaufman 117 South Gadsden Street Tallahassee, Florida 32301

-

¹ The members of FCCA include AT&T, MCI, Access Integrated Networks, Inc., ICG Communications, Inc., IDS Telcom LLC, ITC DeltaCom, Inc., KMC Telecom, Network Telephone Corporation, NewSouth Communications, Inc., Supra Telecommunications and Information Systems, Inc., and Z-Tel Communications, Inc. With the exceptions of Supra and ICG, each of these members, is also a member of the Competitive Carriers of the South, Inc. (CompSouth). The members of CompSouth participating in this proceeding include: Access Integrated Networks, Inc., Access Point Inc., MCI, Birch Telecom, Covad Communications Company, AT&T, Talk America, Nuvox Communications, Inc., ITC^DeltaCom, Xspedius Communications, Momentum Telecom, Inc., Network Telephone Corp., KMC Telecom, LecStar Telecom, Inc., Z-Tel Communications, Inc., InLine and IDS Telcom LLC. As of January 1, 2005, FCCA will merge and become a part of CompSouth. At that time, Supra will also become a member of CompSouth.

2. All pleadings, orders, notices and other correspondence with respect to this docket should be addressed to:

Vicki Gordon Kaufman McWhirter Reeves Davidson Kaufman & Arnold, PA 117 South Gadsden Street Tallahassee, Florida 32301 850.222.2525 (telephone) 850.222.5606 (fax) vkaufman@mac-law.com

- 3. FCCA/CompSouth is an association of telecommunications companies that have been duly certificated by the Commission as competitive local exchange telecommunications companiers ("CLECs") or interexchange companies ("IXCs") in Florida. As such, FCCA/CompSouth's members are subject to the rules, regulations and orders of the Commission, and such rules, regulations and orders impact FCCA/CompSouth's members' ability to provide local exchange telecommunications service and intrastate interexchange telecommunications service.
- 4. In this docket, the Commission is set to address whether to expand eligibility criteria for Lifeline and Link-Up assistance. The Commission is also expected to address whether Florida Incumbent Local Exchange Companies (ILECs) should be required to offer Lifeline credits to customers based on the newly expanded eligibility criteria and whether to adopt a new self-certification process to be implemented by the ILECs to determine eligibility for Lifeline and Link-Up assistance.
- 5. Some of the parties to this proceeding have stated a need for a state universal service fund or alternative cost recovery mechanism to recover the cost of the \$3.50 state discount for Lifeline customers.

6. Because this proceeding will address, *inter alia*, proposed universal service funding mechanisms, the Commission's decision in this docket may or will directly affect the substantial interests of FCCA/CompSouth members and their business operations in the state of Florida.

WHEREFORE, FCCA/CompSouth, on behalf of its member companies, respectfully requests that the Commission grant them the leave to intervene for all legal purposes in this docket.

S/Vicki Gordon Kaufman

Vicki Gordon Kaufman
McWhirter Reeves Davidson Kaufman &
Arnold, PA
117 South Gadsden Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
850.222.2525 (telephone)
850.222.5606 (fax)
vkaufman@mac-law.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing FCCA/CompSouth Petition to Intervene has been furnished by electronic mail and US Mail to the following parties of record this 17th day of December 2004:

Adam Teitzman Florida Public Service Commission 2540 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850 Betty Willis ALLTEL Communications Services, Inc. One Allied Drive, B4F4ND Little Rock, AR 72203-2177

Mark Ellmer GT Com. P. O. Box 220 Port St. Joe, FL 32457-0220 Harold McLean Charles Beck Office of Public Counsel 111 West Madison Street Room 812 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1400

Thomas M. McCabe TDS Telecom/Quincy Telephone P. O. Box 189 Quincy, FL 32353-0189 Nancy B. White BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. 150 South Monroe Street Suite 400 Tallahassee, FL 32301-1556

Michael A. Gross Florida Cable Telecommunications Association, Inc. 246 E. 6th Avenue Suite 100 Tallahassee, FL 32303 Susan Masterton Sprint-Florida, Incorporated P.O. Box 2214 Tallahassee, FL 32316-2214

Charles J. Rehwinkel Sprint Communications Company Limited Partnership P.O. Box 2214 Tallahassee, FL 32316-2214 Kenneth Hoffman Rutledge Law Firm P.O. Box 551 Tallahassee, FL 32302-0551

Mike B. Twomey AARP P. O. Box 5256 Tallahassee, FL 32314-5256 Coralette Hannon AARP Department of State Affairs (NC) Senior Legislative Representative 6705 Reedy Creek Road Charlotte, NC 28215-6096 Richard Chapkis Verizon Florida Inc. P.O. Box 110, FLTC0007 Tampa, FL 33601 David Christian Verizon Florida Inc. 106 East College Avenue Tallahassee, FL 32301-7748

> <u>s/Vicki Gordon Kaufman</u> Vicki Gordon Kaufman