**DA 23-254**

**Released: March 23, 2023**

**WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU ANNOUNCES COMMENT AND REPLY COMMENT DATES FOR RURAL HEALTH CARE SECOND FURTHER NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

**WC Docket No. 17-310**

**Comment Date: April 24, 2023**

**Reply Comment Date: May 22, 2023**

On January 27, 2023, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released an *Order on Reconsideration, Second Report and Order, Order,* and *Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*. The *Second Further Notice* sought comment on how to strengthen the Rural Health Care (RHC) Program and improve access to telehealth in rural America,[[1]](#footnote-3) and sets deadlines for filing comments and reply comments at 30 and 60 days, respectively, after publication in the Federal Register.[[2]](#footnote-4)

On March 23, 2023, a summary of the *RHC* *Consolidated Item* was published in the Federal Register.[[3]](#footnote-5) Accordingly, comments will be due on or before **April 24, 2023** and reply comments will be due on or before **May 22, 2023**.[[4]](#footnote-6) Complete filing instructions are set forth in the *Second Further Notice* and in the Federal Register.[[5]](#footnote-7)

For further information, please contact Kiara Ortiz, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-0272, or via email at Kiara.Ortiz@fcc.gov.

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1. *See generally Promoting Telehealth in Rural America*, Order on Reconsideration, Second Report and Order, Order, and Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Jan. 26, 2023) (*RHC Consolidated Item*). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
2. *Id*. at 1, paras. 120, 135. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
3. FCC, Promoting Telehealth in Rural America, 88 Fed. Reg 17495 (Mar. 23, 2023) <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/03/23/2023-04990/promoting-telehealth-in-rural-america> (Notice) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
4. *Id*. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
5. *RHC Consolidated Item* at paras. 120-122; Notice at 17495. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)