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For Immediate Release



Verizon plan a good start, but more openness still needed.

WASHINGTON -- Harold Feld, Senior Vice President of the Media Access Project, issued the following statement in response to Verizon's open platform announcement:

"This is surely a step in the right direction, but its shortcomings underscore the need for regulations to guarantee Americans the same rights on wireless networks that they have on landlines. Verizon's plan still doesn't guarantee access for all devices, and it is uncertain how much Verizon may charge customers for the right to use their own equipment. Without the certainty that comes from making open platforms a right, rather than a privilege at the mercy of a provider's business plan, innovation and choice in the wireless world will continue to lag behind Europe and Asia."

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Media Access Project (MAP) is a non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to promoting the public's First Amendment right to access a diverse marketplace of ideas in the electronic mass media of today and tomorrow. For over 35 years, MAP has promoted the public interest before the FCC and the Courts, advocating for an open and diverse media that protects the free flow of information, promotes universal and equitable access, and encourages vibrant public discourse on critical issues facing our society. For more information please visit our website at www.mediaaccess.org.

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