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RM 8775

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To: A4.A4(fccinfo)
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Subject: response to RM N. 8775

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I am writing in response to the ACTA Internet Phone Petition (RM NO. 8775). The petitioner states:

OCT 15 1996

"ACTA submits that it is not in the public interest to permit long distance service to be given away, depriving those who must maintain the telecommunications infrastructure of the revenue to do so,"

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

I submit that it is in the public interest for the internet to be used for telecommunications whether free or for a fee. Obviously, it greatly benefits the consumer to have free international communication access, whether by text through e-mail, or by voice through internet enabled software products. If, at some point, the nation's telecommunications infrastructure is decaying as a result of the lack of petitioner's financial ability to maintain them, capital markets will fill the void.

That's the way free markets work. If the consumers demand internet telecommunications, and the infrastructure becomes deficient as a result, those companies wishing to provide internet communications for a profit will find it in their best interests to provide maintenance to the infrastructure, and it may demand that they then begin charging consumers for their service.

This free market economy is full of talented business people who will find a way to provide quality services the consumers demand, and if these services fall out of demand due to changing technology (whether internet or others), let them!!!!

It is not up to our government to subsidize or level the playing fields between the old and the new. Market dynamics will do that well enough and more effectively.

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