

1401 H Street, N.W.
Suite 1020
Washington, D.C. 20005
Office 202/326-3810



Celia Nogales
Director - Federal Relations

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

February 7, 1997

RECEIVED

FEB 7 1997

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: **Ex Parte Statement**
CC Docket 97-1

Dear Mr. Caton:

The attached letters addressed to Chairman Reed Hundt from members of the Michigan House of Representatives, Michigan Senate, and industry should be incorporated in the record of the above referenced docket.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Celia Nogales".

Attachments

cc: M. Waksman

047

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
LANSING, MICHIGAN



17TH DISTRICT
THOMAS H. KELLY
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-0849

MEMBER OF COMMITTEES:
EDUCATION
HOUSE OVERSIGHT AND ETHICS
TRANSPORTATION

February 5, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 N Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20544

Dear Mr. Hundt:

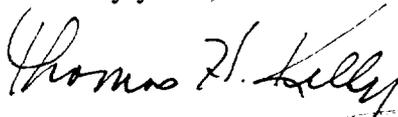
As a State Representative I am pleased to offer my support for Ameritech's request to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan. Ameritech is a company of high integrity and a provider of quality telecommunications services to the citizens of Michigan.

Increased competition should mean lower prices for my constituents and the people of Michigan.

Combining the benefits of the Michigan Telecommunications Act and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 has created an environment in Michigan for competition to flourish. By approving Ameritech's application you will allow our citizens to continue to have greater choices and take advantage of the new products and services that are emerging from this industry.

I urge your approval of Ameritech's request to provide in-region long distance service.

Sincerely yours,


THOMAS H. KELLY
State Representative

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell
U. S. Department of Justice



House of Representatives
State of Michigan

DISTRICT NINETEEN
LYN R. BANKES
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-3920

APPROPRIATIONS:
CHAIR, PUBLIC HEALTH
VICE CHAIR, TRANSPORTATION
SCHOOL AID/DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
REGULATORY
SOCIAL SERVICES

February 5, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Mr. Hundt:

As a State Representative who has supported legislation which opened our telecommunication's market to full and fair competition, I support Ameritech's filing to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan.

Combining the benefits of the Michigan Telecommunications Act and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 has created an environment for competition to prosper. By approving Ameritech's application you will allow our citizens to continue to have greater choices.

I urge your thoughtful consideration of their request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyn R. Bankes".

Lyn R. Bankes
State Representative
Nineteenth District
Livonia-Redford Township

LB:sn

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell
U.S. Department of Justice

DAVID M. GUBOW
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514
(517) 373-0478 LANSING
(810) 542-1603 DISTRICT
(517) 373-5746 FACSIMILE



February 5, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Hundt:

It is my understanding that Ameritech has submitted a petition with the FCC requesting permission to provide long distance service in Michigan. Under the terms of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 you and your colleagues have the difficult task of making sure that companies like Ameritech have complied with the 14 point Federal checklist and signed interconnection agreements with competitors. I am sure it will be no easy task to review and analyze not only this petition, but all the comments and replies.

While I am not in a position to make a judgment as to whether or not Ameritech has fully met its obligations under the Act I do want you to know that I believe Ameritech's entry into long distance service in Michigan will create more competition that will result in greater consumer choice and more competitive offerings.

I thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David M. Gubow".

David M. Gubow
State Representative

DMG/slb



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
LANSING, MICHIGAN

16TH DISTRICT
BOB BROWN
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-0857

February 4, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As a State Representative who serves on the Advanced Technology and Computer Development Committee, I am writing regarding Ameritech's request to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan.

In general, I support an increase of competition within the telecommunications industry. In the Legislature, we must strive to provide the best possible services for the citizens of Michigan in a time of ever increasing technological advances. It is my opinion that Ameritech's filing should be treated fairly as long as it meets the Federal Communications Commission's 14 points of competition criteria.

Thank you for your time on this matter. I urge your thoughtful consideration of Ameritech's request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Brown".

Bob Brown
State Representative
16th District

BB/ptm



14TH DISTRICT
DERRICK HALE
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-1705

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
LANSING, MICHIGAN

February 4, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chair
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Honorable Hundt:

This letter is in response to Ameritech's filing under Section 271 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan.

Ameritech is to be commended for its many contributions to the state of Michigan including, but not limited to its more than 30,000 current and retired employees and its recent \$45,000 contribution to Habitat for Humanity for the construction of a new home in Detroit. However, in the area of local toll calls Ameritech's record is less than commendable. For example we find that in Illinois, where Ameritech has agreed to full competition, the basic rate for local toll calls is 4 cents per minute. However in December, Ameritech announced a cut in its local toll calls to 15 cents per minute for Michigan residents.

At present today's long distance marketplace is managed by primarily three companies - AT&T, MCI and Sprint. These three companies together control nearly 90% of the long distance market, much the same way Ameritech, in and of itself, controls more than 99.5% of local telephone systems in Michigan. Though Ameritech's entry into the long distance market will indeed create an increased sense of competition, will it ensure fairer rates for Michigan consumers? Will stability in the job market be negatively impacted by this fair competition proposal? I am in total support of fair competition as long as the good people of the state of Michigan can be assured fair rates for their overall telephone service needs.

Thank you for allowing me to share my views and concerns on this matter. Should you desire further discussion, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Derrick F. Hale".

DERRICK F. HALE
State Representative

DFH/sat
cc: Donald J. Russell

FIRSTBANK

102 South Main Street • Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 • (517) 773-2600 • Fax (517) 773-0814

February 3, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20544

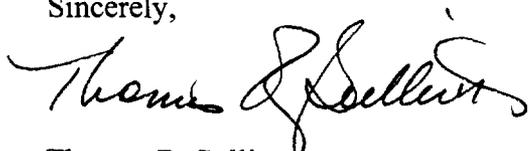
Dear Chairman Hundt:

As the president of a bank operating in rural Michigan, we, like many businesses, are finding that our industry is more and more dependent upon telecommunications. The changes in our society, and the way we do business, makes it critical that more choices are available.

I am in full support of Ameritech's FCC 271 filing to enter the long distance market. With Ameritech expanding their services, all consumers will benefit from an additional competitor in the market. Numerous companies have gained permission from the Michigan Public Service Commission to offer local service in Michigan, yet Ameritech is still unable to compete in the market that the oligopolists have continued to control. Ameritech has demonstrated that they have met the requirements of the Federal Telecommunications Act and are in the forefront of welcoming competition in the local service market.

I urge you to approve Ameritech's application so that Michigan can benefit from Ameritech's product expansion. All Michigan citizens and businesses will be advantaged through increased competition.

Sincerely,



Thomas R. Sullivan
President & Chief Executive Officer

cc: Donald J. Russell
United States Department of Justice

Isabella County Abstract Company

209 E. BROADWAY

ABSTRACTS OF TITLE
TITLE INSURANCE
ESCROWS

MOUNT PLEASANT, MICHIGAN 48858

TELEPHONE 517-773-3241
FACSIMILE 517-773-6221

JOHN G. BENFORD
DOUGLAS D. MCFARLANE

February 3, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Hundt:

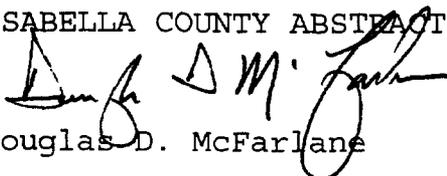
As a small business owner in Michigan, I have been following the state of the telecommunications industry with great interest. Over the last two years, with the passage of both the federal and Michigan's telecommunications acts, I have noticed changes occurring and several changes that ought to occur.

I have seen more and more long distance carriers have their applications granted to enter into the local service market granted, yet for the most part, they have not taken this opportunity to invest their capital to provide Michigan residential and small business owners with this service. Ameritech, on the other hand, invests over one million dollars daily in its infrastructure to provide Michigan's citizens with quality local service yet is not allowed into the long distance market.

Ameritech should be allowed into the long distance market. This would foster competition and would likely break up the existing monopoly that AT&T, Sprint, and MCI maintain. As a small business owner who needs competitive prices along with superb customer service, I urge your thoughtful consideration of Ameritech's request.

Sincerely,

ISABELLA COUNTY ABSTRACT CO.


Douglas D. McFarlane

DDM/ch

cc Donald J. Russell
United State Department of Justice



January 31, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As a hotel and restaurant owner in Michigan, I know what it takes to succeed in business. To be successful in a competitive market one needs to offer a quality product and good service at a reasonable price. If you don't follow these rules, you'll be out of business.

In the telecommunications industry over the last few years, 15 long distance carriers have had their applications to enter into the local service market granted, yet they have chosen not to compete in Michigan's residential and small business local service market. Ameritech, on the other hand, wants to compete in the long distance market yet at this point are unable to do so.

Michigan's business owners need every advantage they can get to succeed, and competition in the telecommunications market would help us be competitive by lowering our operating costs. As a businessman who offers competitive prices along with superb customer service, I urge your thoughtful consideration of Ameritech's request so that they can provide the same.

Sincerely,

Barton W. LaBelle

c: Donald J. Russell
United States Department of Justice

Office: (517) 772-2902
Fax: (517) 773-7521

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
LANSING, MICHIGAN

84TH DISTRICT
REPRESENTATIVE
MIKE GREEN
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-0476
HOME OFFICE: (517) 843-5606

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY,
MAJORITY VICE CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION
HUMAN SERVICES

January 30, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairperson
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am writing today in regard to Ameritech's application to provide long distance service in Michigan under the terms of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The primary goal of both the Michigan and Federal Telecommunications Acts was to increase competition, and it appears to me as though Ameritech's entrance into the long distance service arena would provide for true competition. Clearly, consumers want choice, expanded service and better customer service, all of which occur with increased competition. Furthermore, the overall economy of Michigan can only prosper by improvement in access, choice and service quality. It is my understanding that Ameritech believes it has met all of the legal, regulatory and technical requirements to open its network to competition in Michigan as required by both the federal and state law. Certainly, if you determine that to be the case, I would encourage your favorable consideration of Ameritech's application.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. If I can provide you with additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,



MIKE GREEN
State Representative
84th District

MG:cls



9TH DISTRICT
KWAME M. KILPATRICK
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-0844

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
LANSING, MICHIGAN

FIRST VICE CHAIR
MICHIGAN
BLACK LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

January 30, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20544

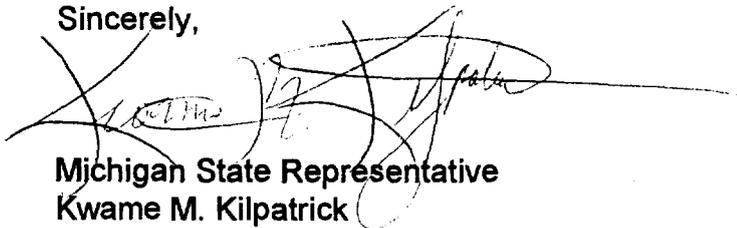
Dear Mr. Hundt:

As a state representative who has a vested interest in fair and competitive prices for my constituents, I support Ameritech's filing to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan.

With the enactment of the Michigan Telecommunications Act and the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, the climate is right for competition in the long distance market to flourish. With the approval of Ameritech's application to enter the market, you are allowing the citizens of Michigan to benefit from continued growth in the job market as Ameritech currently employs over 30,000 current and retired employees in Michigan. In addition, you will be providing our citizens an opportunity to access even greater customer satisfaction and competitive rates.

I urge your thoughtful consideration of Ameritech's request.

Sincerely,



Michigan State Representative
Kwame M. Kilpatrick

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell
U.S. Department of Justice



State of Michigan
John Engler, Governor

Department of Consumer & Industry Services
Kathleen M. Wilbur, Director

January 30, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D. C. 20544

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am writing to indicate my support for Ameritech's recent filing for permission to provide long distance service under the provisions of the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Approval of this filing benefit Michigan consumers by increasing competition and consumer choice in the long distance market. I understand that the Michigan Public Service Commission is now reviewing Ameritech's filing, as required by law, to ascertain whether it meets the conditions specified in the act. You should be receiving their decision soon.

The Public Service Commission has been moving aggressively to promote real competition in Michigan's telecommunications market. More than a dozen companies have already received licenses to provide local phone service in this state. Binding arbitration orders providing for interconnection between Ameritech, AT&T and several other new local service providers have been issued. I am confident that the Public Service Commission's exercise of its statutory duties will assure that neither Ameritech nor any other company is able to use the remaining fragments of monopoly power to stifle competition and entrepreneurship in local phone markets.

Giving Ameritech permission to enter the long distance market at the earliest possible date will ensure that Michigan consumers fully enjoy the benefits of the competitive telecommunications market unleashed by the federal act and 1995 amendments to the Michigan Telecommunications Act.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen M. Wilbur".

Kathleen M. Wilbur
Director



ARTHUR E. ELLIS
Superintendent
of Public Instruction

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. Box 30008
Lansing, Michigan 48909

January 30, 1997

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Dorothy Beardmore
Clark Durant
Barbara Roberts Mason
Marianne Yared McGuire
Herbert S. Moyer
Kathleen N. Straus
Sharon A. Wise
Gary L. Wolfram

GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER
Ex Officio

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As the State Superintendent of Education for the State of Michigan and former Director of the Michigan Department of Commerce, I have been watching the telecommunications industry closely. This industry has a substantial impact on our educational community as well as on our state's commerce, and this role is growing by leaps and bounds.

In 1995, the Michigan Legislature passed the Michigan Telecommunications Act and the Governor signed it into law. This statute enables telecommunications competition in the Michigan marketplace. As a result of this progressive legislation, the Michigan Public Service Commission has granted 14 competitive local licenses to telecommunications companies. Allowing Ameritech to enter the long distance market is consistent with the efforts made in Michigan over the last six years. Increased competition in the local and long distance markets will bring expanded services, and it is time to move forward and enable competition to work.

I am convinced that Ameritech has met all of the legal and regulatory requirements set forth by the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 and I urge you to approve Ameritech's application. Your positive action will bring benefits to all citizens of Michigan from our classrooms to our boardrooms.

Sincerely,

Arthur E. Ellis

cc: Donald J. Russell
United States Department of Justice



79TH DISTRICT
ROBERT L. BRACKENRIDGE
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-1403
FAX: (517) 373-0256
January 29, 1997

House of Representatives
State of Michigan

COMMITTEES:
LOCAL GOVERNMENT, CHAIR
TAX POLICY
TOURISM AND RECREATION

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As a State Representative from a Michigan border county, the residents in my district are exposed daily to competition from the nearby states of Indiana and Illinois. Competition for their banking, their shopping, and the companies for which they work. Michigan prides itself on creating policies which foster a competitive atmosphere and I am honored to be a member of the legislative body responsible for shaping these policies.

With that in mind, I would like to express my support for Ameritech Michigan's application to enter the long-distance market. Competition has proven to be the cornerstone of our economy, leading to greater consumer choice, lower prices, and higher quality of service. Allowing another contender into the long-distance telephone market can only help the industry to continue bettering itself and provide consumers with the lowest cost possible for this service.

I would urge your thoughtful consideration of the Ameritech Michigan application for long-distance market entry. We count upon the FCC's thorough review of this application as an indicator not only of an expanding long-distance market, but also as a sign that competition within the local telephone service industry in Michigan exists and will continue to grow with the same success for the industry and the consumer that has occurred elsewhere within the telecommunication industry.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If I, or my colleagues in the Michigan House of Representatives, can be of any future assistance on this issue, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Representative Bob Brackenridge
State Representative
79th District



SENATE
STATE OF MICHIGAN

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR.
SENATE MINORITY LEADER

CAPITOL BUILDING
LANSING, MI 48913

January 28, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Mr. Hundt:

As Michigan's Senate Minority Leader, I enthusiastically support Ameritech's Section 271 filing to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan. Once approved, Michigan will finally have competition in the long distance market, added choice, and enhanced customer service as envisioned by both the Michigan and the Federal Telecommunications Acts.

Currently, there are 14 companies such as AT&T, MCI-Metro, and Brooks Fiber, etc., that have been licensed to provide local service in Michigan. Ameritech has fulfilled its 14 point interLATA "checklist" and therefore should be allowed to provide long distance service as well.

Michigan has always been at the forefront with its state-of-the-art communications technology. By granting Ameritech's 271 application, it will continue to create new and improved services enabling Michigan to continue to attract and retain business and satisfy its current customers' needs.

Once again, I offer my heartfelt support to Ameritech's Section 271 filing and strongly urge your thoughtful consideration of their request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John D. Cherry, Jr." in a cursive style.

John D. Cherry, Jr.
Senate Minority Leader

JDC/dk



FRANK M. FITZGERALD

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514
(517) 373-0853

SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
71ST DISTRICT
EATON COUNTY

MEMBER OF COMMITTEES ON:
OVERSIGHT AND ETHICS, CHAIR
JUDICIARY AND CIVIL RIGHTS
INSURANCE

January 24, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20544

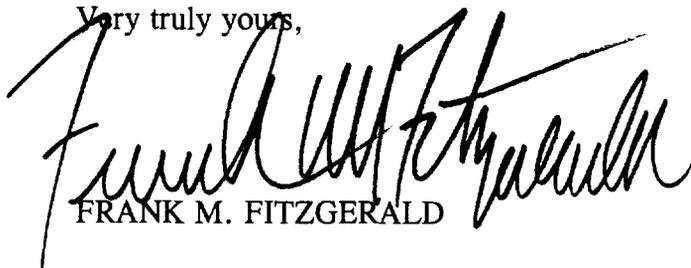
Dear Mr. Hundt:

I write to support Ameritech's application to offer long distance service to its customers in the state of Michigan.

The Michigan legislature has passed and since reauthorized telecommunications reform under Michigan law. A hallmark of our statute is a belief that competition should occur in the provision of local telephone service. I believe that the constituents whom I represent are best served by having as many options as possible, not only for local service, but also for long distance service. Many providers makes for lower rates and better service for everyone.

I trust that Ameritech's application will receive every consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. Should it meet the criteria which the commission members have established for approval, I hope that your action will be quick and favorable.

Very truly yours,



FRANK M. FITZGERALD

FMF:sls

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell, U.S. Department of Justice Telecommunications Task Force



37TH DISTRICT
POST OFFICE BOX 30014
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF MICHIGAN

PHONE: (517) 373-1793
HOME: (810) 476-3525

ANDREW RACZKOWSKI

January 23, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to give my full personal support to the petition of **Ameritech Michigan** for the right to offer long distance service in Michigan.

While I was not a member of the Michigan Legislature when they passed the Telecommunications Act of 1995, I fully support their action in an attempt to bring more competition to the telecommunications marketplace. I am equally as confident that with Ameritech's approval to enter the long distance market, Michigan consumers will see true competition arise as prices become more competitive, services and innovations are expanded, and service to our Michigan customers become more responsive.

Ameritech has met all of the legal and regulatory requirements to open its network to competition and I believe this action would be in the public interest. I respectfully request that your grant approval to **Ameritech Michigan's** petition.

Sincerely,

Andrew E. Raczowski
State Representative
37th District

AER:mra

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell



TERRY GEIGER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
87TH DISTRICT

MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514
PHONE: (517) 373-0842

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Lansing, Michigan

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEES:
CHAIR, JUDICIARY
VICE CHAIR, CORRECTIONS
VICE CHAIR, SCHOOL AID AND
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MENTAL HEALTH

January 23, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Ameritech's filing under Section 271 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan. This letter is written to ask that you give Ameritech's request a thorough review.

As I'm sure you are aware, Michigan led the way in progressive telecommunications regulation through the Michigan Telecommunications Acts of 1991 and 1995. In 1996, the Federal Telecommunications Act was approved by Congress with bi-partisan support. The primary goals of both the Michigan acts and the federal act was to increase competition in the market place so that consumers would have greater choices in their local and long distance telephone services.

In Michigan, local competition is already occurring, with 14 licenses granted by the Michigan Public Service Commission to enter and compete in local markets. Customers in Michigan want choice, expanded services and better customer service. Competition is already achieving this in our state, in part because Ameritech has not served as an impediment to the Michigan Public Service Commission as it has reviewed applications for local competitors.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment and I would appreciate your consideration of Ameritech's request to provide long distance service in Michigan.

Sincerely,


Terry Geiger
State Representative
87th District

TG:m

cc: Mr. Donald J. Russell, Dept. of Justice



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE OF MICHIGAN

55TH DISTRICT
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BEVERLY S. HAMMERSTROM
STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
(517) 373-0828

COMMITTEES:
MENTAL HEALTH, CHAIR
HEALTH POLICY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

January 22, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Mr. Hundt:

It is my understanding that Ameritech has filed a petition with the FCC for permission to enter into the long distance market. I am writing in support of their efforts.

Michigan has led the way in progressive telecommunications regulation, most recently with amendments to the Michigan Telecommunications Act which provided the necessary means to bring real competition to telephone customers in Michigan. We believe that this competition will lead to lower prices and more efficient service.

Ameritech has received approval from the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) to enter into interconnection agreements with AT&T, Brooks Fiber, MFS and TCG. Ameritech's long distance subsidiary, ACI, was granted a license by the MPSC in August of 1996. In addition, the MPSC has to date approved 14 licenses to companies to compete in the local market. I believe we are truly moving in the right direction in this state to provide a competitive market.

Ameritech has demonstrated its willingness to become a player in Michigan's competitive market, and I believe the Federal Communications Commission's approval of their application will provide the means for them to offer Michigan customers increased choice. I ask that you look favorably upon their request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beverly S. Hammerstrom".

Beverly S. Hammerstrom
State Representative
55th District

c: Donald J. Russell



House of Representatives
State of Michigan

DISTRICT EIGHTY-ONE
TERRY LONDON
THE STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-1790
TDD: (517) 373-0543

COMMITTEES
TRANSPORTATION, CHAIR
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
INSURANCE

January 22, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairperson
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am writing concerning Ameritech's filing under Section 271 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan.

Ameritech's proposed entry into the long distance market is consistent with Michigan's Telecommunications Act of 1995, which establishes a regulatory framework in which increased competition would result in greater choices, access, and services for Michigan residents. It is my understanding that Ameritech believes it has met all of the legal, regulatory, and technical requirements to open its network to competition in Michigan as required by both the federal and state telecommunications acts. Therefore, should you concur, I would encourage your favorable consideration of Ameritech's Section 271 application.

Thank you for your consideration. If I can be of assistance in answering any questions you might have, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Terry London
State Representative
Eighty-first District

TL:sph



House of Representatives
State of Michigan

DISTRICT EIGHTY-ONE
TERRY LONDON
THE STATE CAPITOL
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48913
PHONE: (517) 373-1790
TDD: (517) 373-0543

COMMITTEES
TRANSPORTATION, CHAIR
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
INSURANCE

January 22, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairperson
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20544

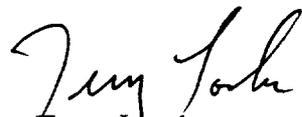
Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am writing concerning Ameritech's filing under Section 271 of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 to provide in-region long distance service in Michigan.

Ameritech's proposed entry into the long distance market is consistent with Michigan's Telecommunications Act of 1995, which establishes a regulatory framework in which increased competition would result in greater choices, access, and services for Michigan residents. It is my understanding that Ameritech believes it has met all of the legal, regulatory, and technical requirements to open its network to competition in Michigan as required by both the federal and state telecommunications acts. Therefore, should you concur, I would encourage your favorable consideration of Ameritech's Section 271 application.

Thank you for your consideration. If I can be of assistance in answering any questions you might have, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


Terry London
State Representative
Eighty-first District

TL:sph