

Proceeding: UNIVERSAL SERVICE

Record 1 of 1

Applicant Name: Mark Champ

Proceeding Name: 96-45

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Submission Type: 7

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Once again this is showing the BOCs and LECs are acting in a monopolistic fashion. Consumers are already paying an extra charge for the line that they use the internet on, now we are going to pay a per minute charge. That is charging the users twice..These are the same companies that want in the long distance market before their local markets are open for true competition. How many times will consumers be forced to pay more when the Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996 promised lower rates and a greater choice of services. If this is approved, this is a slap in the face to the Congress, President and consumers that joined together to pass this legislation. A majority of consumers still do not have competition for their local service. If passed, this will give the RBOCs and LECs an unfair advantage in the world of the internet. When will this madness stop.

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Proceeding: UNIVERSAL SERVICE

Record 1 of 1

Applicant Name: ALEX CWIEKALO

Proceeding Name: 96-45

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Please do not allow local phone companies to institute a per minute additional charges for internet use via a local phone number. For years we've been hearing how much these phone companies have expended to upgrade their systems, equipment and customer service (fiber optics ring a bell) as justification for rate increases/adjustments. They've got us paying more for local calls than we previously did by now having "zones" in what used to be the "local area" so they can charge local long distance for calls across these zones, they just raised without hesitation the cost of local pay phone calls, etc. Additionally, with all the emphasis by our government on education for our children with internets in the school, how/ who will be paying for those phone calls' minutes the schools will be using if this is allowed? The schools are already suffering money woes that have teachers buying supplies for the children, books are out of date/not replaced as often, etc.

The phone companies are not losing money because of the internet, if anything they're already benefiting from it by the increased number of consumers getting second lines in their house because of the internet (and soon we're going to be paying more for those second lines) and thereby doubling fees to the phone company. When is enough enough already?

The consumer has been screwed over and over by the cable companies, bank ATMs, credit card fees, etc, and this is just another money grab. Please don't let them get away with it. Thank you for your consideration. Alex

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