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September 22, 1998

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Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

ORIGINAL

Re: Ex parte contact in CC Docket No. 96-198

Dear Secretary Salas:

This will serve as notice that representatives and members of the Information Technology Industry Council ("ITI") met today with Tom Power, Legal Advisor to Chairman Kennard, to discuss ITI's position on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the above-referenced docket. In addition to the undersigned, Fiona Branton (ITI), Stacy Stern Albert (Compaq), and Virginia Bartlett (Sony) participated in the meeting. A copy of the handout that was used at the meeting is attached hereto.

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1206(a)(1) two copies of this letter are being filed with the Secretary of the Commission today.

Sincerely,



Janine F. Goodman
Counsel for the
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
INDUSTRY COUNCIL

Attachment

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List ABCDE

I. THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MARKETPLACE: A "PLUG AND PLAY" WORLD

◆ The results:

- ◆ Robust competition
- ◆ Technological innovation
- ◆ Broader variety of specialized products
- ◆ More consumer choice
- ◆ More responsive to consumer needs
- ◆ Prevalence of niche players

◆ What this means for individuals with disabilities:

- ◆ Enables consumers to customize their systems to meet unique needs
- ◆ Rapid dissemination of technological advances/solutions
- ◆ Greater accessibility without compromising innovation

II. SECTION 255: SHOULD HARNESS MARKETPLACE TRENDS

◆ Adopt flexible rules

- ◆ Access Board Guidelines - Relevant but not determinative
- ◆ Accessibility through product families, marketwide availability, compatibility
- ◆ Readily achievable factors - Focus on practical considerations

◆ Adhere to Congress's express language and intent

- ◆ Outside the scope: information services, software

◆ Apply "direct control" approach in allocating responsibility

- ◆ e.g. Multi-use equipment

◆ Establish constructive problem resolution mechanisms

- ◆ Mandatory, initial contact with manufacturer
- ◆ Adequate response deadlines