

MICHAEL E. BUSCH  
SPEAKER

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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
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September 19, 2014

The Honorable Thomas Wheeler  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

*In the Matter of the Applications of AT&T, Inc. and DIRECTV to Transfer Control of FCC Licenses and Other Authorizations. MB Docket No. 14-90*

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I would like to express my support for the proposed merger of AT&T and DIRECTV.

Employing over 1,700 Marylanders, AT&T has been a longstanding corporate partner in the State that consistently invests in its infrastructure to provide customers with expanded and enhanced coverage. Furthermore, AT&T also maintains a strong, positive relationship with its local workforce and is committed to respecting the rights of its employees.

The Commission has previously noted that “[a]ll Americans in all parts of the nation, including those in rural, insular, and high-cost areas, should have access to affordable modern communications networks capable of supporting the necessary applications that empower them to learn, work, create, and innovate.” I strongly support the Commission’s policy priority of enhanced rural broadband deployment. The proposed merger of AT&T and DIRECTV could provide thousands of Marylanders in rural communities with increased access to high-speed Internet connectivity that would ultimately foster economic growth and job creation.

The proposed merger of AT&T and DIRECTV has the potential to transform Maryland communities with enhanced broadband coverage through increased competition and consumer choice. For the aforementioned reasons, I believe the proposed merger serves the best interests of Maryland consumers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Busch".

Michael E. Busch  
Speaker