



GET CONNECTED

2 0 1 4

Platinum Corporate

Sponsors

COMCAST

PEPCO HOLDINGS, INC.

October 3, 2014

The Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

I appreciate this opportunity to share with you some thoughts from the Maryland Chamber of Commerce regarding the proposed merger between AT&T and DirecTV. The Chamber is Maryland's leading statewide business advocacy organization with over 740 member companies employing more than 400,000 residents. We are committed to helping our members grow and prosper, as well as to advancing the state of Maryland as a national and global competitive leader in economic growth and job creation.

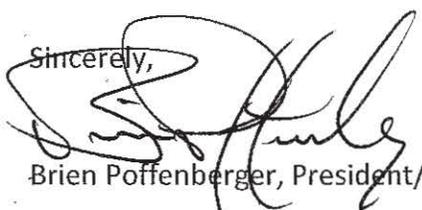
The Maryland Chamber of Commerce is in full support of this merger because a combined AT&T/DirecTV will bring new and better high-speed broadband options to millions of Americans, the majority of which are in rural areas. Customers in many of these locations will, for the first time, receive the type of internet service that people in other areas take for granted.

The AT&T/DirecTV merger will allow Wireless Land-Line (WLL) services to be greatly expanded, with AT&T offering fixed WLL to an estimated 13 million, underserved, rural customers, including a quarter million in Maryland. Almost 20% of these 13 million customers where AT&T's fixed WLL service will become available have no access to terrestrial option today, and in most instances that single option is DSL or a relatively slow cable modem service.

The AT&T/DirecTV merger will provide the ability to provide a true bundle of integrated satellite video, home broadband, and home VoIP services, and this will make for a more competitive and compelling offer in these underserved areas.

Thank you for taking these views into account as you review the proposed AT&T-Direct TV transaction.

Sincerely,


Brien Poffenberger, President/CEO