

October 14, 2014

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

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I am writing today to extend the support of the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce to the proposed merger of AT&T and DIRECTV.

The Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce is the largest Chamber in New England with over 2,300 members, from 35 communities from Central and Southern Worcester County. Our membership ranges, in employee size, industry and net earnings, but is more than 80% small business, some of which are in rural settings.

These small businesses deserve the level of high speed internet service seen by their business counterparts in more urban areas of the Commonwealth. The merger of AT&T and DIRECTV will assist in providing this serve to the more rural and lesser served regions of the Commonwealth.

In the modern business climate a lack of connectivity means loss of business opportunities. Being able to engage with customers through an online presence is paramount to the successful strategy of any company.

We support this merger as it will provide for more significant economic growth in more rural areas of the commonwealth. This growth translates into job creation and the overall financial vitality of a community.

We thank you for your consideration of our comments as the FCC reviews this matter, and hope that you view this proposal favorably.

Sincerely,


Timothy P. Murray
President and CEO

AFFILIATE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE

Auburn • Blackstone Valley • Central Mass South • Wachusett Area • Webster Dudley Oxford