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October 14, 2014

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Indiana needs greater access to broadband service to advance our state's economic development and preserve our competitiveness in a global marketplace.

More and faster broadband, and more competition and choice in providing broadband, is why I support the proposed merger of AT&T and DirecTV. This merger will provide benefits to consumers across Indiana, including the following:

- AT&T's proposed deployments of high-speed broadband, particularly in rural Indiana, will help keep this state business-friendly and a great place to live and work.
- For consumers, the company will be able to offer affordable, attractive bundles of broadband, video and other services that will enable consumers to access the content they want on any screen.
- For businesses, faster broadband means better connections and the opportunity to find and develop new markets.
- For other businesses involved in the broadband economy, such as app developers, greater availability of broadband means more opportunities to sell their products, think for example of applications designed to assist farmers.
- For content providers, the merger would mean integrated, seamless offerings of broadband and video that customers can access on any screen, anywhere, often for the first time.

As a Senator in the Indiana Senate and co-chair of the Labor and Economic Development Committee of the National Conference of State Legislators, I am pleased to endorse this merger, and I hope the Commission will approve it expeditiously.

Sincerely,



Brandt Hershman
State Senator, District 7