

Fayetteville

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The Honorable William Kennard
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

CC Docket No. 98-141

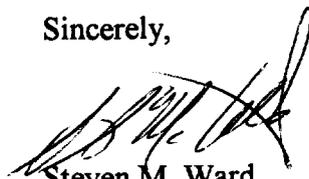
Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Fayetteville Chamber of commerce represents over 1,100 businesses in Northwest Arkansas, one of the countries fastest growing areas. With corporate offices of Tyson Foods, Wal-Mart, J. B. Hunt and the like located in Northwest Arkansas, we understand growth, acquisitions, mergers and international competition.

The Fayetteville Chamber supports the SBC merger with Ameritech. This merger will form a company that will be able to provide more for its customers at a competitive rate and allow them to compete in the national and international market. The merger of SBC and Ameritech will position these for a nationwide based telecommunications network creating the domestic competition as envisioned in the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

This country needs to help position it's companies for global competition, thereby ensuring the continued growth of the U. S. economy. We support the commission approval of the SBC-Ameritech merger as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your support on this issue.

Sincerely,



Steven M. Ward
President/CEO

- cc: Honorable Tim Hutchinson, Senator
- Honorable Blanche Lincoln, Senator
- Honorable Asa Hutchinson, Representative
- Honorable Jay Dickey, Representative
- Honorable Vic Snyder, Representative
- Honorable Marion Berry, Representative

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