



785 MARKET STREET, 3RD FLOOR SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-2005  
 PHONE: (415) 284-7200 FAX: (415) 284-7210 http://www.greenlining.org

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April 8, 1999

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

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**Greenlining Coalition:**

ACCION, San Diego  
 American G.I. Forum  
 Asian Business Association  
 Asian Enterprise  
 Black Business Association  
 California Coalition of Hispanic Organizations  
 California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce  
 California Journal for Filipino Americans  
 California Rural Legal Assistance  
 Chicano Federation, San Diego  
 Chinese for Affirmative Action  
 Council of Asian American Business Associations  
 Filipino - American Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles  
 Filipino - American Political Association  
 First AME Church, Los Angeles  
 Hermandad Mexicana Nacional  
 Hmong American Political Association  
 Japan Pacific Resources Network  
 Latin Business Association  
 Latino Issues Forum  
 Mexican American Grocers Association  
 Mexican American Political Association  
 Minority Business Council, Orange County  
 National Federation of Filipino American Associations  
 New Bayview Committee  
 Oakland Citizens Committee for Urban Renewal (OCCUR)  
 Phoenix Urban League  
 San Francisco Black Chamber of Commerce  
 San Francisco Business & Professional Women, Inc.  
 Southeast Asian Community Center  
 Spanish Speaking Unity Council  
 TELACU  
 Vietnamese Community of Orange County, Inc.  
 West Angeles Church of God in Christ  
 West Coast Black Publishers Association

**Executive Staff:**

John C. Gamboa, Executive Director  
 Robert L. Gnaizda, Policy Director & General Counsel  
 Haydee Diaz, Academy Director

The Honorable William Kennard  
 Chairman  
 Federal Communications Commission  
 1919 M Street, N.W.  
 Suite 814  
 Washington, D.C. 20554

CC Dkt No. 98-141  
 CC Dkt No. 98-184 ✓

Re: SBC/Ameritech and GTE/Bell Atlantic:  
 Anti-Competitive Mergers that Fail to Protect the Underserved

Dear Chairman Kennard:

The Greenlining Institute members include three dozen minority business, church, community consumers and civil rights organizations.<sup>1</sup> We applaud the FCC's decision to secure further public input on whether the SBC/Ameritech merger is anti-competitive and/or will protect and promote the public interests of all consumers, including historically underserved communities.

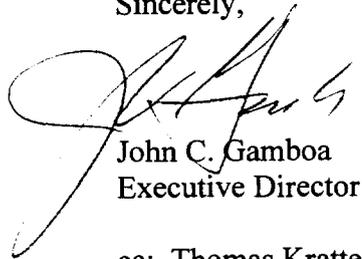
We and our members specifically seek an opportunity to present our position on behalf of underserved communities at an FCC-held Public Hearing. Two examples of the lack of competition in areas SBC serves are illustrated in California. The first relates to a multi-billion dollar marketing fraud campaign directed at minority and low-income families. Hearings before the California PUC have just been completed (Greenlining v. Pacific Bell, No. 98-06-00). The second example is the pending SBC request to increase directory assistance charges by up to 400 percent ( \$.25 to \$1.10 per call); this is likely to double lifeline rates in many low-income communities where telephone directories are unavailable.

We also urge you to issue a similar Public Hearing letter for the GTE/Bell Atlantic merger.

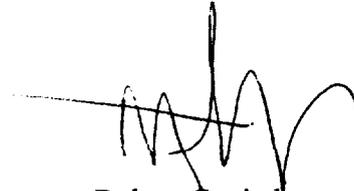
<sup>1</sup> Includes Asian, Black and Latino Business Associations, National Black Chamber of Commerce, California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Hermandad Mexicana Nacional, Greater Phoenix Area Urban League, First AME Church and Filipino-American Political Association.

We and our members look forward to appearing at your anticipated Public Hearing.

Sincerely,



John C. Gamboa  
Executive Director



Robert Gnaizda  
Policy Director & General Counsel

cc: Thomas Krattenmaker, Director of Research, Office of Planning & Policy  
Richard Atkinson, Deputy Chief, Common Carrier Bureau

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Federal Communications Commission  
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Commission

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