

**The
21st
Century
Urban League
of Greater Miami, Inc.**

May 24, 1999

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Policy

CC DKT. NO. 98-141

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

Dear Chairman Kennard:

As your agency considers the proposed merger of Ameritech and SBC Communications, please allow me to add my voice to those calling for your support of this merger.

I agree that the merger makes sense from a business and economic perspective, I also concur that it will help to bring about widespread competition that we all so eagerly await. Yet, these are not my primary reasons for supporting this merger. I do so because of the tremendous record of corporate citizenship that these two firms have compiled over the years.

Both SBC Communications and Ameritech have gone above and beyond the call of duty to promote the quality of life in the communities they serve. Whether one is viewing corporate philanthropy, involvement in community causes, workforce diversity, vendor diversity, or progressive personnel policies, these firms are among top tier of American industry.

One of the best reasons to approve this merger as soon as possible is so that two progressive regional companies can combine to create responsiveness into the telecommunications industry, and I believe that this is precisely the kind of goal that the Federal Communications Commission should be seeking.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

T. Willard Fair
President and CEO

TWF:ywm

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