

**CWAG**

**Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups**

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Thomas L. Frazier, *Executive Director*

May 28 11 42 AM '99

*Frazier*

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
May 24, 1999

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**JUN 21 1999**

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Chairman William Kennard  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket #98-141

Dear Chairman Kennard:

At our Board of Directors meeting last week the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups voted to support the proposed Ameritech merger with SBC. In general, we believe that Ameritech and SBC should be able to compete on even terms with other telecommunications firms. While endorsing the proposed merger, CWAG's Board members did express concerns about the need for more consumer education in telecommunications, especially for residential customers, and that the merger will result in more jobs in Wisconsin as well as other states in the Ameritech region.

CWAG is a statewide nonprofit, nonpartisan federation of 640 member organizations--the largest such coalition in the country. Ameritech has been a major supporter of CWAG through sponsorships of our annual convention since 1989. Recently Ameritech made a commitment of \$100,000 over four years to help CWAG develop an Intergenerational Center in Madison that will include consumer education on telecommunications issues. We are pleased that the CEO at SBC has committed to continue a high level of charitable contributions to nonprofit organizations. I have also worked with Ameritech representatives on Wisconsin's Universal Service Fund Council where we have worked successfully to expand life-line and link-up programs to lower-income consumers in Wisconsin.

On behalf of CWAG, I urge FCC approval of the proposed merger between Ameritech and SBC.

Sincerely,



Thomas L. Frazier  
Executive Director

Cc: Commissioners:  
Harold Furtchgott-Roth  
Susan Ness  
Michael Powell  
Gloria Tristani

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