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TELECOMMUNICATIONS® TIA INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

July 7, 1999

NOTICE OF EX PARTE

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
12th Street Lobby, TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 96-198, Implementation of Section 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 - Access to Telecommunications Services, Telecommunications Equipment, and Customer Premises Equipment by Persons with Disabilities

Dear Ms. Salas:

On June 22, 1999, representatives of the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) met with Paula Silberthau and Suzanne Tetreault of the Office of General Counsel regarding the above-captioned proceeding.

The discussion related to TIA's comments, reply comments, and other documents previously filed in this docket. The views expressed during the meeting focused on an approach to implementation and enforcement of Section 255 that affords telecommunications manufacturers and service providers the flexibility to offer a wide variety of accessible solutions across families or lines of products; the mechanisms that will be established for addressing consumer concerns regarding accessibility; and the potential expansion of the reach of the proceeding to cover products and services not contemplated in the plain language of Section 255. TIA also reiterated its commitment to continue working with the FCC and consumers to achieve the goal of Section 255 – the availability of a broad array of products and services that are accessible to persons with disabilities.

An original and one copy of this letter are submitted and copies have been forwarded to the staff present at this meeting, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2). If you have any questions about this submission, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Derek R. Khlopin

Derek R. Khlopin
Regulatory Counsel

cc: Paula Silberthau
Suzanne Tetreault

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