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STOP the FCC from eliminating public disclosure
of telecommunications rate and service information!

For more information on this issue please visit www.publicdisclosure.com





CC 96-91 DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Informed Choice!



"We must strive to provide consumers with the information they need to take advantage of the opportunities that [telecommunication] competition provides."

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

FCC Chairman William Kennard
February 9, 1998

The ability to make an informed decision in choosing a provider of telecommunications services is vital for the consumer. The FCC's recent decision not to require telecommunications companies to publicly disclose their long distance rate information will make it impossible for any customer to make a truly informed choice. As William Kennard states above, open competition in the telecommunication market can only benefit consumers if they can make educated decisions. Without public disclosure, this is not possible.

I urge you to give this situation top priority in the coming weeks and to remember that telecommunications reform was implemented to create a competitive market and to give consumers a greater opportunity to choose the services which would best suit their needs. With the proposed elimination of the public disclosure requirement, the FCC is clearly taking a step in the wrong direction if it intends to achieve these initial goals.

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