



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO

TIM BANNWOLF  
CITY COUNCILMAN  
DISTRICT 9  
January 20, 2000

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Honorable Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 Twelfth Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

00-4

RE: Docket No. 004, SBC Texas 271 Application

Dear Secretary Salas:

I would like to encourage the Federal Communications Commission to permit Southwestern Bell to offer long distance services in Texas. Allowing Southwestern Bell to provide these services will foster a competitive telecommunications industry in Texas and encourage additional employment opportunities in our community.

As a member of the San Antonio City Council, I have had the opportunity to review and approve numerous municipal franchise applications from local telephone service providers. It is clear to me that consumers have choices when selecting companies to provide local service. Now it is time for consumers to have the same ability to select long distance services from Southwestern Bell.

It also is evident from the proposed America Online/Time Warner merger that companies must be able to compete in all aspects of the emerging broadband market without artificial geographic boundaries. Preventing Southwestern Bell from providing long distance precludes one of San Antonio's pre-eminent corporate citizens from participating in this highly competitive market.

I believe the time has come to allow Southwestern Bell entry into the long distance market to create a more robust and competitive telecommunications industry in Texas. My constituents, as well as others across the state, will benefit through better prices and more options. I hope you will support the application of Southwestern Bell to provide long-distance services in Texas.

Sincerely yours,

Tim Bannwolf

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MAILING:  
P.O. BOX 839966  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78283-3966

CITY HALL:  
TELEPHONE (210) 207-7325  
FAX (210) 207-2507

