

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA  
CITY COUNCIL

ANGEL L. ORTIZ  
Room 590 City Hall  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107  
(215) 686-3420-3421  
Fax: (215) 686-1930

July 9, 2001

COMMITTEES  
Chairman  
Public Safety  
Vice Chairman  
Law & Government  
Member  
Appropriations  
Streets & Services  
Licenses & Inspections  
Labor & Civil Service  
Transportation & Public Utilities

RECEIVED

JUL 16 2001

FCC MAIL ROOM

COUNCILMAN-AT-LARGE

**Ms. Magalie Roman Salas**  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room CY-B402  
Washington, DC 20554

**FORMAL**

**RE: Application by Verizon Pennsylvania Inc. for authorization to provide In-region InterLATA Services in State of Pennsylvania, Docket No. 01-138**

Dear **Ms. Salas**:

I am aware that the Federal Communications Commission is presently considering the 271 application that Verizon has filed awaiting your approval. Your approval would allow Verizon to provide long distance services, expanding its footprint in the industry and throughout Pennsylvania communities. I support Verizon's interests in providing In-region Inter-LATA Services in Pennsylvania and respectfully request that you authorize it for the benefit of all consumers.

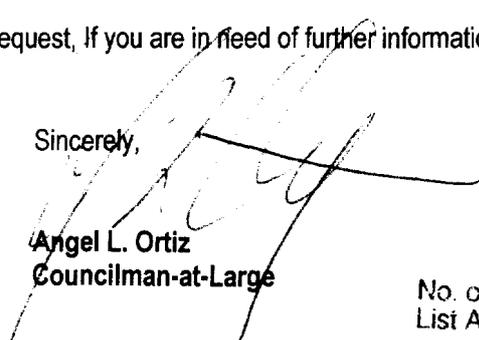
Verizon has demonstrated a sensitivity and commitment to Hispanic Americans in the region. It is this type of involvement that suggests that this company respects the ever-growing cultural diversity of the City of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I believe that many citizens would be pleased to have even more choices for long distance telephone services, particularly if Verizon were to be included. Surely, this should help costs and services in the long distance market to be even more competitive.

Not long ago, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission confirmed that Verizon addressed the criteria established by the 1996 Telecommunications Act. The next step is action to be taken by the FCC. It seems only reasonable that this company should receive your support in this process. Doing so opens the door even more for citizens to be able to receive enhanced convenience and services, and better prices.

Please authorize Verizon Pennsylvania, Inc. to provide long distance, and allow citizens of Philadelphia and throughout Pennsylvania to have choices for good companies.

I thank you for your consideration to this request, if you are in need of further information please give me a call at 215.686.3420.

Sincerely,

  
**Angel L. Ortiz**  
Councilman-at-Large

No. of Copies rec'd  
List ABCDE

014