

Dear FCC Commissioners & Staff:

My name is Charles Shirley and I am the Operations Manager of an ISP with about 1,000 members in Sacramento California. we have been in business since 1998 providing a full suite of services. In addition we also serve our community by providing, probono, Internet access and web hosting services to a variety of Local Community Groups. We also serve the local Sacramento Russian speaking community (80,000 strong) by providing Russian speaking customer service personel and by participating in Russian Cultural events as a sponser.

Will The Baby Bells provide these services to our community or like services to any community, I don't think so. In fact I can speak from the experience of being a third generation telecommunications worker that in the effort to reduce labor costs through economies of scale customer service from the Bell System / Baby Bells has died. My customers tell me that they like the personal touch that they cannot get from the RBOCs et.al.

By Changing the rules to disallow ISPs access to the PSTN not only will thousands of independent businesses vanish but also the jobs that they provide. In the ensuing oligopolistic competition prices will rise, the digital divide will widen, access to the knowledge required for upward mobility in an information society will be curtailed all of which will add to social unrest and hopelessness in lower class economic sectors. This is an all round bad idea.

Please do not let the short sighted greed of a few stop millions from accessing the free flow of ideas that is the Internet.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Charles Shirley
11294 Coloma Rd. #C
Gold River, CA 95670

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