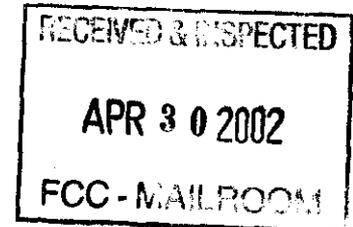


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April 17, 2002

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW.
Washington, DC 20554



COMMENT ON PROPOSED RULEMAKING

I believe that the proposed rulemaking in FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, 47 CFR Part 76 [CS Docket No. 02-52; FCC 02-77] **Appropriate Regulatory Treatment for Broadband Access to the Internet Over Cable Facilities**, grants an unwarranted and unnecessary monopoly to local cable providers that is anti-competitive and harms the consumer. There is no valid reason why broadband service should not be treated as a commodity nor why the local cable provider should not be treated as a common carrier. This would infuse competition into the local broadband market, stimulating the introduction of advanced technology, improving the quality of service, and lowering its cost. Furthermore, this healthy, competitive market will grow faster because of lower prices and better service than would a monopolized market in which service was poor and prices high.

Our current local cable provider, Comcast, offers monopoly broadband service at unreasonably high cost and with very poor service. An internet poll, which I participated in, found Comcast service to be the worst among all broadband providers. Because of Comcast's monopoly, I have no alternative.

The FCC should require open ISP access to local cable systems.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "H. D. Cochran".

H. D. Cochran
105 Graceland Rd.
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

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