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JANE SWIFT
GOVERNOR

June 6, 2002

Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to encourage a judicious and timely review of the pending merger between EchoStar Communications and Hughes Electronics DirecTV.

As Governor, I have worked hard to improve the educational and economic systems of Massachusetts. This proposed merger has the potential to expand high-speed Internet, broadband and cable services to all areas of our Commonwealth, which could give a boost to our schools, businesses and quality of life, particularly in the rural areas of Massachusetts.

I am also aware that the new entity would foster competition between the satellite and pay television industries. In most instances, increased competition benefits consumers by providing better services and lower prices.

I ask that you will give this proposed merger a fair and thorough hearing in the near future.

Sincerely,

Jane M. Swift

Confirmed

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