

~~DUCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL~~

From: DLlsett <dlisset@tampabay.rr.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 9/28/02 1:31PM
Subject: The Telecommunications Act of 1996

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Powell,

I would first like to say that I am ashamed and appalled that you would even consider a change to the Telecommunications Act of 1996. Any modification to this act would be a slap in the face to the current FTC Chairman, Timothy J. Muris, and Mr. Harvey L. Pitt, the Current Chairman of the SEC. Once you modify the Act we are now back in a situation of a monopoly which brings us into an anti-trust situation, the purview of the FTC. And you can bet that there will be no cut in salary for SBC Chairman/CEO Whitacre, and their stockholders the arena of the SEC. And possibly the IRS for both the FCC and the SBC--since we have seen fit to investigate MCI/Worldcom, Qwest, etc. I can see that possibly a visit from the Chairman of the SBC to your office in Washington should be a consideration for all parties involved. I believe the President spoke about this very thing stating "We are sending a clear warning and a clear message to every dishonest corporate leader: You will be exposed and you will be punished. No boardroom in America is above or beyond the law."

Now let's examine the financials of all the layoffs and downsizing of the telecommunication companies/monopolies. I did not see you come to the rescue when all the ISPs and the famous "Tech Wreck" led to hundreds of thousands of layoffs and the demise of many large technical companies such as Lucent Technologies, Danka, etc. Yet now, now that there is the inkling of a free market for telecommunications, we are worried about layoffs? The only reason there are layoffs is because we as a country are finally getting back to one of the greatest tenets and principles our country was founded upon: FREE ENTERPRISE. That means that while SBC, Qwest, etc. held those monopolies, charging what they wanted, they could afford to hire, and hire, and create that great big monopoly--now with the competition they must behave more like a real for profit company and get lean and ready for the competition. With one stroke of your pen you are willing to again create an even tighter monopoly for the SBC and soon to follow the other Bells, Qwest, etc. because they will be next at your door.

I am ashamed that of all people, you would play the game of giving into the large companies. We stand as Americans now at the brink of war, where we must band together, and you want to take that American spirit of freedom and quash it with one stroke of your pen. Well, Mr. Powell, possibly it is time you stepped down, and let a commissioner who stands for the people and by the people of these United States, and let free enterprise reign as set forth in the Telecommunications Act of 1996. I have one last question for you, "How can you sleep at night, knowing that you will take away something very precious to all people of these United States--the freedom of choice."

With great remorse,
Deborah L. Isett, Ph.D.
Organizational Management

P.S. Dear Mr. Cheney: Although you don't remember me, I worked for you as a Captain in the Air Force when you were the Secretary of Defense, and quite coincidentally was one of your constituents in Wyoming. I am asking that you please do what you can to keep our great nation on keel with what we are

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trying so hard to hold onto*freedom of choice and the principle of free enterprise. Having one **man** entrusted with such a decision to put us back into the 1984 arena of the days of the ATBT monopoly goes against everything this country has fought for. There is "word" that he has made up his mind to modify the Telecommunications Act of 1996 in favor of the big corporations based on the frequent visits of the Chairman/CEO of the SBC to Mr. Powell's office of the FCC. What comes next? MCI, Qwest, Verizon? We are back where we started right after 1984. Can you help? Can you find the right person to help? Many of our livelihoods depend on it. Thank you for your consideration, and I am so glad your health is back on track, you were my favorite SecDef.

Deborah Isett

CC: <president@whitehouse.gov>, <vice.president@whitehouse.gov>, <antitrust@ftc.gov>, <chairmanoffice@sec.gov>, <enforcement@sec.gov>, <Bill.Young@mail.house.gov>, <sharon.y.horn@m1.irs.counsel.treas.gov>

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From: "Pat H Shuford" <pshuford@myexcel.com>
To: "Michael K Powell" <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/9/02 10:09AM
Subject: PROTECT MY RIGHT TO CHOOSE

Patricia H. Shuford
169 Bainbridge Street
Brooklyn, New York 11233
October 9, 2002

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

Re: PROTECT MY RIGHT TO CHOOSE

Dear Chairman Powell,

I am writing to you as a concerned American Consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors play'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bells and their likes in leading you to believe that they are loosing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

I, an American consumer, want the choice to pick who I spend my hard earned money with. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you **do** the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition.

It is called 'FREE MARKET!'

Most sincerely,

Patricia H. Shuford

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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From: "Jim Pollard" <jimpollard@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/9/02 11:25PM
Subject: Retain the Telecommunications Act intact

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*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing to you as a concerned citizen-consumer who is fearful of the "smoke and mirrors" ploy that we are hearing from the Baby Bells. I STRONGLY BELIEVE IN AND AGREE WITH the 1996 Telecom Act. It needs to stay intact. I think that it was the best thing done in a long while for protection of the consumer.

Please don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes to convince you that they are losing money because of open competition. Their greed is quite evident.

As an American consumer I want to have a choice with whom I spend MY HARD EARNED MONEY. Our free enterprise system affords the consumer choices among competitors ... that's the American way.

Thank you!

Mr/Mrs. James O. Pollard
500 W. Harbor Dr., #317
San Diego, CA 92101

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From: "Marcia & David Keathly" <mdkeathly@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 9/30/02 9:29PM
Subject: 1996 Telecom Act

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Powell

I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors play'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are losing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

I, as an American consumer, want the choice to PICK WHO I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called 'free market'!

Thank you.

Respectfully,
Marcia and David Keathly
3090 Kelley Ave.
Ponca City, OK 74604

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

From: "John L. Brant Jr." <johnbrant@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 9/30/02 9:12PM
Subject: 1996 TelecomAct

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NOV 19 2002

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Powell,

We are writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'. WE STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

We think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish **us**, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are loosing money because of open competition. **It's** because of their greed.

We, as an American consumer, want the choice to PICK WHO WE SPEND OUR HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving **us** our liberal freedom of choice. Don't **turn** our country and time back 100 years. We sincerely hope that you **do** the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called 'free market'!

Thank you

Respectfully,

John and Esther Brant
San Antonio, Texas
210-523-5445 Home
Consumers

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96-98

From: "Raymond O. Bigart" <hayray@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 9/30/02 4:10PM
Subject: Freedom of choice

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NOV 19 2002

Clear DayDear Mr.. Powell,

I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEOs and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are loosing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

I, as an American consumer, want the choice to PICK WHO I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called 'free market'!

Thank you.
Raymond O. Bigart

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From: "Elsie" <elsief@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 9/30/02 11:25AM
Subject: "NO TO BREAU-NICKLES BILL 10/7/02"

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NOV 19 2002

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

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Powell:

We are writing to urge you to vote AGAINST the Breau Nickles bill. If passed, this bill would provide an unfair advantage to the giant local telephone monopolies by allowing them to provide integrated long-distance as well as local service everywhere, without first having to open their local monopoly networks to competition as the law now requires.

At the time of the enactment of the 1996 Telecommunications Act there were eight local phone monopolies, which have since consolidated into four. Federal law mandates that these companies allow competitors fair access to the local networks, but the Bell companies have repeatedly disregarded the law and done everything in their power to stifle fair competition. For example, in New Jersey, Verizon has been guilty of actually charging MORE for WHOLESale prices on resale service than for the average basic retail rate itself! This is also true of SBC in the Texas area, With regard to USF funds, to which the Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILEC) have access, the Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLEC) were also recently awarded access by the State of Texas. However, the decision was appealed by SBC, which further delays the ability of competitive Local Exchange Carriers to provide local service to some of the rural customers.

The refusal of the "Bells" to ABIDE BY THE LAW and their own promises has curbed consumer choice in every region of the country

Please do not allow these monopolies to further stifle competition

Vote AGAINST the Breau-Nickles bill!!!

Sincerely

Robert and Elsie Farley
Excel Independent Representative
Post Office Box 4425
Greensboro, N.C. 27404

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From: "Jim Johnson" <jaru93@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 9130102 11:04PM
Subject: Telecom Act

96-98

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEOs and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are loosing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

I, as an American consumer, want the choice to PICK WHO I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called 'free market'!

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jim Johnson

Gig Harbor, Washington

253-853-1418

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From: "Evelyne" <ev@sc.rr.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/1/02 12:03AM
Subject: Telecom Act

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NOV 1 9 2002

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

This is an excellent letter. When you write yours, do not mention you are involved as a rep. You are an interested consumer. Do it today!

Ken

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are loosing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

I, as an American consumer, want the choice to PICK WHO I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called 'free market'!

Sincerely
Evelyne Ball

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

From: "Jayne Hawkins" <thehawk@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/1/02 9:16AM
Subject: 1996 Telecom Act

96-48

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for-greed of pocketbook.. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are losing money because of open competition, **It's** because of their greed.

I as an American consumer what the choice to PICK WHO I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called 'free market'!

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jayne Hawkins
International Recruiter
Charleston, SC 29412
Pager/VM 843-958-6060
Home/Office 843-795-0007

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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96-98

From: "Cherryl Wistos" <cawistos@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/1/02 1:40PM
Subject: 1996 Telecom Act

Hello Mr. Powell:

I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is outraged at the tactics and ploys that the Baby Bell's and their likes are playing to obtain sympathy to get our government officials to vote to suspend the deregulation of the 1996 Telecom Act. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND SUPPORT the 1996 Telecom Act. I am the one spending my hard earned money and I want to have the choice **as** to whom I spend my money with. Our founding fathers died to give **us** this liberal freedom and choice. Please do not turn back the hands of time. I sincerely hope that **yu** will do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer to allow them to do business with companies that are capable of competition. It is called 'FREE MARKET'!

Thank you

Sicnerely.

Cherryl A. Wistos
PO Box 1525
Sandy, OR 97055-6496

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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From: "The Vaughns" <snsvaughn@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/1/02 5:04PM
Subject: Telecom Act of 1996

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing to ask you to support the original mandate of the Telecom Act of 1996

I know you are under a lot of pressure from the Baby Bells to let them keep their monopolies. I, as a consumer, believe that the break up of the monopolies was the best thing that could have happened. I want to be able to choose who I spend my money with.

ATBT survived when it lost it's monopoly. Long distance rates became bearable, because other companies were allowed to compete. Please do not let the greed of Southwestern Bell lead you to believe that the competition is the reason for them loosing money. It's mismanagement from the top, as we've seen so much lately. Do the CEO's take pay cuts? No, they just lay off the workers in hopes to instill smypathy.

Please help protect fairness in the marketplace.

Thank you,

Sharon Vaughn
1506 Avondale Dr.
Loveland, CO 80538
970-663-4547

Sharon Vaughn
Independent Representative
Excel Communications
Powered by Vartec Telecom

www.excelir.com/ssvaughn

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From: beverly estrada <calif_sunshine2001@yahoo.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/2/02 11:51PM
Subject: 1996 Telecom Act

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

I am writing to you as a concerned American and who strongly believes and agrees in the 1996 Telecom Act. I, as an American consumer, want the choice to pick who I spend my hard-earned money with. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called "Free Market".

Thank you, Beverly Estrada

Do you Yahoo!?
New DSL Internet Access from SBC & Yahoo!

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Office of the Secretary

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From: "Terri L. Stroble" <speedial@myexcel.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/3/02 5:51PM
Subject: 1996 Telecom Act

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell s and their likes in leading you to believe that they are loosing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

I as an American consumer what the choice to PICK WHO I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called 'free market'

Thank you

Respectfully,
Terri L. Stroble Scottsdale, AZ
623-341-0045
speedial@myexcel.com

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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96-98

From: "KATHLEEN WAGAR" <kwagar@msn.com>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/8/02 1:32PM
Subject: Deregulation

Dear Mr. Powell

The practical affect of the deregulation of cable tv, radio etc., is to give the American people less than we expect. The radio stations in the Twin Cities are sorely lacking in variety, AT&T can raise rates and reduce what we want to see at will. Isn't it common sense that the more people and companies competing to give us service is in the best interest of the consumer?

I don't like the way things are going. You are government, the American people come first.

Kate Wagar
Minneapolis

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

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From: "Grace Diaferia" <graced8144@myexcel.com>
To: "Michael K Powell" <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/8/02 12:19PM
Subject: Re; Baby Bells

Dear Mr. Powell,

We are writing to you as concerned American consumers who are fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'. We STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

We think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish us, the consumers, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are losing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

We as American consumers, want the choice to PICK WHO WE SPEND OUR HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. We sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called a 'free market'.

Thank you,

Respectfully,
Grace and Peter Diaferia
142 Johnson Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583

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**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

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96-98

From: "Sandra Strout" <maillady@a-znet.com>
To: <kabernat@fcc.gov>, <mcopps@fcc.gov>, <kjmweb@fcc.gov>, <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/5/02 2:08PM
Subject: Telecommunication Act of 1996

The Baby Bells are losing money because their culture is not based upon competency and cost savings

For years the Baby Bells have nurtured a culture of over spend and spend every last dime. The reason is they knew that as soon as their profits fell below the acceptable percentage, the PUCs would allow them a cost increase. This would generate more profit and with a constant number of shares outstanding, higher \$\$/share profit

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This increases share-holder value and their charter is to do exactly that. increase shareholder value

Now their heads are spinning and they must compete in an open market. Their whole corporate culture is counter to that.

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 Office of the Secretary

They are now again turning to the FCC and the PUC to bail them out.

Why are they screaming that they must layoff people ? It is brinkmanship in a political year and

the result of mis-management

This *is* not the result of an event, this is the result of their business decision made over a very long period of time.

While other industries were trying to cut costs, reduce overhead and eliminate bloated management. the Baby Bells have operated counter to sound management practices.

The current situation has been created by them through their own consistent business decisions.

I as a voting consumer am firmly against any more government support, reduction of choice to the consumer or relaxation of any requirements of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Their model has always been increase costs and the total expenses, thereby increasing the total dollars profit and the dollars per share profit of the stock-holder.

SBC and the rest of the baby bells have a charter, increase shareholder value. They have continued to do that and SBC is now recreating AT&T using the money taken from consumers in Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas and Kansas to buy Ameritech and PacBell.

Send them back to their offices with a clear message, Turn your business profitable and manage it to reduce cost, don't look to us for a bail-out. We've held your hand for 18 years it's time you recognized the real world and got on with it, You are not immune to the business world cycles and must compete. Follow the practices of every other industry and reduce your costs.

Sandra Strout

FOR PICKUP CALL 1-800-222-1811

\$3.85



www.usps.com

HOW TO USE:



1. COMPLETE ADDRESS LABEL AREA
Type or Print required return address and addressee information in customer block (white area) or on label (if provided).



2. PAYMENT METHOD
Affix postage or meter strip to area



3. ATTACH LABEL (if provided)
Remove label backing and adhere over customer address block area (white area).

REGISTRATION

Randy Johnson
12671 3RD ST
12671 3RD ST
12671 3RD ST

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

MICHAEL POWELL
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 12TH ST SW
WASHINGTON DC
20554

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Distribution Center

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▲ PLACE LABEL HERE ▲

The efficient FLAT RATE ENVELOPE.

You don't have to weigh the envelope.

This packaging is the property of the U.S. Postal Service and is provided solely for

sending Express Mail. Misuse may be a violation of Federal law.

Dear Mr. Powell,

I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen and mirrors ploy'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry is the result of greed. Consumers did not do this, Owners. CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are loosing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

I, as an American consumer, want the choice to PICK WHO I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY WITH Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. PLEASE PRESERVE OUR FREE MARKET! Thank you for your careful consideration.

Respectfully,



Randy Johnson
1267 3rd St.

Yucaipa, Ca 92399
(909) 797-4489

1124873000
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OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary



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



Confirmed

OCT 22 2002

Distribution Center

Muriel Smythe
107 Overlook Drive
Boone, NC 28607

107 Overlook Drive
Boone, NC **28607**
October 1, 2002

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

Dear Chairman Powell:

I **am** writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a “smoke screen and mirrors ploy.” I STRONGLY BELIEVE IN AND AGREE WITH the 1996 Telecom Act.

I think it was **the** best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunication Industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, owners, CEOs and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bells and their likes in leading you to believe that they are losing money because of open competition because of their greed.

I, as an American consumer, want the choice to PICK WHERE I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY. Our founding fathers died to give us our freedom of choice. Don't turn our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is call “free market”!

Thank you!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Muriel Smythe".

Muriel Smythe



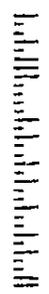
Jim & Paissy Randall
18330 Old 5 Rd
Versailles, MO 65084-5278



NOV 1 2002



Chairman Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St, S.W.
Washington D.C.
20554



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Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

96-98

Dear Mr. Powell,

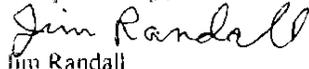
I am writing to you as a concerned American consumer who is fearful that you will fall prey to a 'smoke screen end mirrors ploy'. I STRONGLY BELIEVE AND AGREE in the 1996 Telecom Act.

I think it was the best thing that was done to protect the consumer in a very long time. What has happened in the Telecommunications industry was done for greed of pocketbook. Consumers did not do this, Owners, CEO's and stockbrokers did! Don't punish me, the consumer, by allowing the Baby Bell's and their likes in leading you to believe that they are losing money because of open competition. It's because of their greed.

I, as an American consumer, want the choice to PICK WHO I SPEND MY HARD EARNED MONEY WITH. Our founding fathers died in giving us our liberal freedom of choices. Don't ruin our country and time back 100 years. I sincerely hope that you do the right thing and leave the choice up to the consumer with the companies capable of competition. It is called 'free market'!

Thank you.

Respectfully,



Jim Randall

18330 Old Five Road
Versailles, MO. 65084

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

96 98

From: "dcaisley" <dcaisley@ameritech.net>
To: <mpowell@fcc.gov>
Date: 10/4/02 4:47PM
Subject: FCC help needed.

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NOV 19 2002

Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Powell:

Below is a letter I recently sent to one of my Senators. I sent similar letters to my other senator and my congresswoman. Mr. Powell, I believe the telecommunications regulatory playing field is now clearly stacked against the major LECs. While they must be open to competition, they should not be forced by state regulators to sell below cost **SIMPLY TO CREATE ARTIFICIAL COMPETITION!** I believe your immediate attention to the issues in this letter are critical to putting this industry back on the track again. If you do nothing, **INVESTMENT IN THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY WILL CEASE.** When that happens, nobody will be building networks, thousands of jobs will be lost, and major suppliers like Lucent and Nortel will cease to exist. Do you think this makes sense for a struggling economy? I don't.

Please work to provide the regulatory relief sought in the letter below as soon as possible. The industry is in crisis, and you are probably the only man on the planet who can correct this massive problem.

My voice is small and my expectations are low, but thank you for listening

Don Caisley

To: The Honorable Richard Durban
 U. S. Senator from Illinois
 Washington, DC

From: Donald A. Caisley
 519 CaCrest Dr.
 Shorewood, IL 60431
 815-729-0730

Dear Senator Durbin:

I want to tell you my concerns about the present state of the telecommunications industry, and suggest some corrective actions that are necessary to put that sector of the economy back on its feet. **As** you may know, new products and services from this sector helped significantly to drive the economy to new heights and produce huge increases in productivity during the '90's. Now, that engine of economic improvement is a derailed train wreck, and something must be done to fix it. Some current problems and my suggestions for fixing them are listed below.

1. A product called UNE-P in essence requires the large, regional phone companies to sell their networks at wholesale prices that are **UNDER COST** and 60% less than retail. This discourages SBC, Bell South and Verizon from investing in their networks because they lose money on each wholesale line they turn over to AT&T or other competitors. The managers of these companies are not stupid. They are refusing to invest in these over-regulated markets while this situation exists. SBC is generating an additional \$3 Billion this year in **CASH** which should be plowed back into the business thereby creating **THOUSANDS** of jobs. Instead, they're paying down their debt because getting rid of that interest expense is more lucrative than building a state - of - the - art telecom network. Your constituents are losing their jobs by the

thousands due to this state of affairs

SOLUTION: At the very least, the FCC should regulate wholesale prices so that the large carriers can break even and make a small profit on the lines they **sell** to AT&T and the other carriers. This would allow the Local Exchange Carriers (LECs) to continue to invest in the network. Further, it might also encourage companies like AT&T to **BUILD THEIR OWN NETWORKS** if they think they can do it more cheaply and efficiently than the LECs. Either way, the economy wins and new jobs are created!! Pro-Union senators like you need to put pressure on the FCC to do the right thing with respect to UNE-P pricing.

2. DSL is the regional phone companies answer to the broadband internet service provided by cable TV companies. Cable TV broadband is deregulated and the carriers can charge what they want for this service. On the other hand DSL service is totally regulated by the FCC with each state's PUC having their fingers in the pie too. The result is much the same as UNE-P above. The regional bells are often required to provide DSL to wholesalers **BELOW COST** so that there is no incentive for them to roll out this service. Meanwhile, AT&T, Time Warner/AOL, and all the other cable TV operators are cleaning up on broadband charging whatever the market will bear with **NO COMPETITION**.

SOLUTION: DSL should be deregulated just like cable TV broadband. I'm not sure whether congressional action is needed to get this done or whether it can be done by the FCC. Then new jobs will be created as the bell companies roll out DSL, and consumers will get a new, high-tech service more cheaply because **COMPETITION WILL REGULATE PRICE IN THE MARKETPLACE**. There is no justification for "protecting" the likes of AT&T and Time Warner from competition, Those companies are as big or bigger than the regional bell companies. Again, pro-union senators like you are key to getting this moving.

3. The baby bells face huge obstacles to offering long distance service in many states based on the whims of the various state PUCs and sometimes the FCC. Meanwhile, the three major long distance providers are jumping to provide local service all across the nation due to the artificially low pricing described in Item 1 above. This is absolutely unfair. The baby bells have opened their systems and their networks to the competition. It is now time to let them enter the markets of the long distance providers.

SOLUTION: The FCC should mandate the rules for entering the long distance market **NATIONWIDE**. When it is satisfied that these requirements have been met, the regional bells should be allowed to start providing long distance service in each state. The state PUCs should have **NO SAY** in this issue. **As** with the other issues, senators like you are needed to get this moving.

4. There are far too many players currently in the Telecommunications Industry, and there will be dozens of company bankruptcies over the next two years. The regional bell companies provide network access to most of these companies, so they stand to lose billions in bad debt as these companies go under. They stand to **lose** billions more to competition if some of these companies emerge from Chapter 11 debt free and can therefore charge lower rates because they have no debt to service. Both of these situations are unfair to regional bell shareowners and employees whose companies have maintained excellent balance sheets by comparison to the bankrupt companies.

SOLUTION: Regulations should be put in place (probably by the FCC) to strictly limit the credit exposure of the baby bells to companies in Chapter 11. Further, the FCC should enact strict pricing rules for companies emerging from Chapter 11 to make sure they cannot **use** their newly-found debt free status to steal business from companies **WHO DID NOT STIFF THEIR CREDITORS FOR BILLIONS OF DOLLARS**.

Senator Durbin, I know the government generally works at a snail's pace and that it can take years to get the reforms I've mentioned enacted -- if they get enacted at all. But I fear that the telecommunications industry could very well be destroyed without the intervention discussed above. Then thousands more union jobs will be lost. Your support of the necessary reforms is critical if this industry is to recover any

time soon.

Thank you for your consideration and action on these important issues.

Don Caisley

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NOV 19 2002

30 September 2002

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear FCC Chairman Michael Powell.

I am earnestly writing to you in regards to the Telecom Act of 1996 and that this *Act be protected* and will continue to allow for fairness within the telecommunications industry. I urge you to seriously consider that allowing the Telecom Act of 1996 to be reversed will have serious repercussions to the Telecommunications industry as a whole. Monopolies do not serve all. The Telecom Act of 1996 was created to ensure healthy competition in the marketplace.

I am an Independent Representative with Excel/Vartec Telecommunications and have built a business because deregulation in 1984 allowed for individuals like me to do so. The Telecom Act of 1996 has further allowed us to compete in the local market. I started this business, because as a single mother, I saw the validity in the opportunity to start a business within this industry that would allow for me to build toward financial security. We are asking for a fair and equal opportunity to continue to build our business and be allowed to compete on a fair and equal scale within the industry. Thousands of individuals like myself have built Excel/Vartec businesses to enhance their families financial security.

Is it fair, that because of major mismanagement by some of the telecommunication companies, that this ruling be put under scrutiny when this ruling was initially designed to allow free market enterprise? Is it reasonable for those same companies to ask that **they are not held accountable** for these problems by requesting to be released from the ruling under this act? There are decent and honest telecommunication companies competing who do offer honest, competitive services and do "care" about the customer on all levels. Excel/Vartec is one of those companies. This company was started on ethics and has built a successful company because of those ethics. We are simply asking for the ability to continue building this company within a fair marketplace.

Restoring the "financial health of the telecommunications industry" should not mean that we go back to an industry that should once again allow for a monopoly. "Public trust" will be better gained if the public is allowed to continue to have choices for both their long distance **and local** communication services. The deregulation of 1984 and the 1996 Telecom Act provided an avenue for the free market enterprise and entrepreneurial spirit to exist in the telecommunications industry. I urge you to keep both alive.

Please vote to protect the Telecom Act of 1996.

Respectfully,

Linda Hewitt

Louisville, KY