



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

GROVER G. NORQUIST

PRESIDENT

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
236 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., Suite 110
Washington, DC 20002

April 25, 2005

Re: WC Docket No. 05-65; SBC Communications, Inc. and AT&T Corp. Applications for Approval of Transfer of Control

Dear Secretary Dortch:

As the Federal Communications Commission prepares to consider the proposed merger between SBC Communications, Inc. and AT&T Corp., it is the position of Americans for Tax Reform that the merger should go forward, without interference from the federal government.

In the twenty-one years since the breakup of the AT&T- Bell monopoly, the telecommunications -- and indeed voice services -- landscape has changed radically. Consumers are no longer constrained to one provider, or even one technology. As new companies are offering traditional wireline telephone services, still others are offering Voiceover Internet Protocol (VoIP), Wi-Fi and cellular services, all at progressively lower prices. At the current rate of technological innovation, it's fair to assume consumers will soon have available to them still more choices that are unforeseeable today. For this reason, concerns that the proposed SBC-AT&T merger will represent a threat to competition are unfounded.

In the current landscape, the best course of action for the federal government is to allow the free market to do its work, to the benefit of consumers. It is with this rationale in mind that I ask the FCC to allow the merger to proceed, unencumbered by government interference.

Respectfully submitted,

Grover Norquist