

I do not want to see a return to the time when our telephone service is essentially a monopoly. I expect the FCC to act in favor of the consumer. The FCC should block these mergers and find new ways to bring down the costs of these services, particularly high-speed Internet which has become essential to modern life and is the gateway to exciting new technologies, like making phone calls on the Internet and streaming in video over the Internet. America is falling behind the rest of the world in broadband deployment. According to Consumers Union, we are now 16th, far behind countries like Japan and Korea, which have opened up the building blocks of broadband phone and cable lines to competitors. This merger would only worsen these problems and therefore must be blocked. They would stifle competition, raise prices, and lead to fewer choices, making the problem worse, not better.