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of New York

October 26, 2006

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

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
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Re: WC Docket No. 06-74, Support for AT&T BellSouth Merger

Dear FCC Chairman and Commissioners:

Since 1990, the Asian American Federation of New York has worked to promote the quality of life and civic voice of Asian Americans in the New York metropolitan area. In order to achieve this goal, it is vital that Asian Americans have access to quality telecommunications applications at reasonable prices. Through working with many grassroots health and human service organizations, we are aware of the barriers to effective communications media that exist in the Asian American community. We believe the merger of AT&T and BellSouth will deliver broadband access and other advanced telecommunications tools to more consumers throughout New York and will be responsive to our community's communication needs.

The Internet has become a medium of vast economic and civic profit for all American consumers. But when broadband deployment here lags so far behind many countries, it is necessary to spark investment in our networks as much as possible in order to deliver advanced telecommunications services and better broadband access soon to consumers who have waited far too long.

As you evaluate the AT&T Bell South merger proposal, we encourage you to consider the merged entity's ability to invest in, innovate, and offer new services to its customers as well as the potential progress it brings about toward a healthier telecommunications industry.

Sincerely,

Cao K. O
Executive Director