

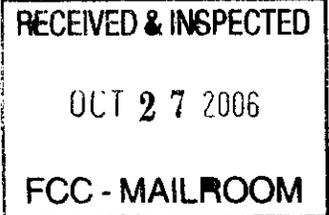
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October 26, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 06-74

Dear FCC Commissioners:

I am writing to urge your approval of the AT&T-BellSouth merger. As President of the Florida Regional Minority Business Council (FRMBC) I have been carefully following the merger's progress and particularly the developments of the past few days. It is clear to me that this merger will serve the public interest and greatly benefit customers of the combined company.

The commitments that AT&T recently announced for much greater broadband affordability and availability are especially beneficial to the Florida Regional Minority Business Council. Access to broadband is of great concern to my membership. Approval of the merger will address this critical need by offering truly *affordable* and *ubiquitous* service.

I understand that AT&T has proposed to the Commission a commitment to provide its dial access customers a free modem for upgrading to DSL service. I

also understand the company has offered to make available a \$10 monthly residential broadband offering as well as deliver broadband capability to *all*

No additional cost 041
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residential units in its combined territory, including lower-income and rural areas. These commitments will help drive high-speed broadband usage and help close the digital divide between rich and poor, urban and rural.

I urge the Commission to approve the merger of AT&T and BellSouth promptly so that consumers can benefit as soon as possible from the broadband provisions this merger offers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B Louissaint", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Beatrice Louissaint
President & CEO

cc: Marlene Dortch, Commission Secretary