

Dear Commissioners:

I am the President of the Triangle Urban League. I wrote to you in October of this year urging your agency to take quick action to approve the merger of AT&T / BellSouth. As you know, this merger will bring many benefits to the members and constituents of my organization so any delay in the merger simply delays the benefits. This is why I am writing to you to express my concern regarding the FCC's failure to act on voting on this merger.

The merger has the potential to provide great new benefits for African-Americans. For example, we understand that AT&T and BellSouth have discussed with the Commission precedent-setting merger conditions that are unmatched by any other communications provider. First, the newly merged company will offer \$10 broadband access to all residential customers within the new, combined company's service territory. Second, any current AT&T-BellSouth customer using dial-up service will be offered a free upgrade to DSL, including a free modem. Third, "stand-alone" DSL will be offered to customers at a competitive rate, thereby no longer requiring customers to also purchase voice service. Most importantly, AT&T and BellSouth have made a commitment to deploy high-speed Internet service to rural areas and lower-income living units. All of these provisions will have a tremendous positive economic impact for African-Americans.

Please help grow economic opportunities and improve the quality of life of African-Americans through affordable and universal broadband services by not delaying the approval of the AT&T / BellSouth merger.

I appreciate your assistance and your leadership.