

ASSOCIATE WITH WC DOCKET 06-74

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charliefoxtrot12@hotmail.com wrote on 12/6/2006 2:01:00 PM :

DEC 26 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Senator John McCain
U.S. Senate
241 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0001

Dear Senator McCain,

The Federal Communications Commission has crossed an ethical line so brazenly that Congress must intervene. I'm writing to request more congressional oversight and to urge you to join the efforts of Senator Inouye and Representatives Dingell, Markey and Doyle to address the problem and demand greater accountability.

The FCC is currently reviewing a proposed merger between AT&T and BellSouth, a multibillion-dollar deal that would constitute the largest merger in the history of U.S. telecommunications and resurrect Ma Bell. Good-faith negotiations on the conditions of this merger have been ongoing. Commissioner Robert McDowell, a recent arrival at the FCC, has properly recused himself from the proceeding, citing conflicts of interest because his former employer has a major stake in its outcome. We applaud his ethical stance, which demonstrates a commitment to forthright public service.

The conditions under discussion are reasonable for a merger of this size and scope. They include consumer protections to prevent exploitation of market power in pricing and Network Neutrality -- a principle strongly supported by the public that prevents Internet service providers from discriminating against content produced by their competitors. Yet rather than engage in a compromise, AT&T has pushed FCC Chairman Kevin Martin to take an extraordinary and troubling step.

Chairman Martin has indicated that he intends to "un-recuse" Commissioner McDowell and ask him to vote on the merger. This would be an unprecedented and bold affront to an open policymaking process that demands independence and impartiality. The public interest cannot be served by agencies that seek to actively override conflicts of interest. There are clear ethical lines in this case that Commissioner McDowell has respected. We ask that you hold Chairman Martin to the same standard.

Sincerely,
Richard Hollister
4011 N. 1st Ave K-81
Tucson, AZ 85719-1068

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felix1179@msn.com wrote on 12/6/2006 4:30:28 PM :
Senator Debbie Stabenow
U.S. Senate
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0001

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Sincerely,
David Kuehn
1055 Ferdon Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-3630-

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Sincerely,
Kelsey Burns
1040 N. Quincy St.
Arlington, VA 22201
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Robert Douglas
15135 Poplar
Southgate, MI 48195-

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Sincerely,
Lindsay Rayner
1880 Three Towers Rd
Chandlersville, OH 43727-

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jerome kernes
3047 mary kay lane
glenview, IL 60026
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Chuck Kaiser
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Oakdale, MN 55128

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1098 Glen Circle
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