

ALLEN BOYD

SECOND DISTRICT, FLORIDA

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 22, 2009

The Honorable Michael Copps  
Acting Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Copps:

As you know, Embarq and CenturyTel have filed an application for the federal Communications Commission to consent to their merger.

As you consider their request, I wanted to let you know that my constituents have been pleased with Embarq's service to the communities in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional district as a communications provider and good corporate citizen. Embarq has been a strong proponent of promoting rural broadband, which is critical to helping the rural towns across North Florida stay competitive and connected to the world.

CenturyTel has recently made investments in an Internet backbone, IPTV products, and a 700 MHz spectrum that will be enhanced for the benefit of consumers when combined with Embarq's local networks. I have every indication that the Embarq-CenturyTel merger will allow the new company to maintain the scale necessary to make broadband investments in the region.

Given these considerations, I would appreciate your prompt attention to consider this merger. Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

  
Allen Boyd  
Member of Congress

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