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FCC Mail Room

06-92

Sirs,

As I do not have a computer,  
I do it the old way! and hope it  
will be correct!

I am a Widow (85) and I  
hope they do not do away with  
R.F.D., Widows (and others) really  
enjoy the music but can not  
afford it if they keep raising prices  
& doing away with "Old" programs,  
which we can still get a good  
program like Tommy Ernie Ford -  
(Remember) its Wonderful.  
Please don't let them do  
away with R.F.D. I love Music

Sincerely

Mattie Foster

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I read Consumer Reports

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# What big media mergers mean to you

**IF YOU THINK** your cable bill's high now, just wait. It could get even higher if the Comcast-Time Warner merger is approved. That's the opinion, anyway, of 74 percent of Americans surveyed by the Consumer Reports National Research Center. People also think the proposed merger, which was first announced in February, would result in fewer choices when it comes to providers of

pay TV and broadband Internet services, and most in the April 2014 national survey of 1,573 people oppose the merger altogether.

The Comcast-Time Warner announcement seems to have started a chain reaction of consolidation in the telecommunications industry. In May, AT&T announced its intention to buy satellite provider DirecTV for \$48.5 billion. All of the companies involved

have portrayed their mergers as beneficial for consumers, citing the prospects of accelerated deployment of new technologies, higher broadband speeds, and increased bargaining power with content providers.

But it's obvious from our survey that consumers themselves don't seem to see it that way. Only 12 percent of the public seems to believe that those types of large media mergers are good for the economy overall.

"AT&T's proposed takeover of DirecTV is just the latest attempt at consolidation in a marketplace where consumers are already saddled with lousy service and price hikes," says Delara Derakhshani, policy counsel for Consumers Union, the policy and advocacy arm of Consumer Reports. Consumers Union is working to stop the Comcast-Time Warner merger. Find out more at [HearUsNow.org](http://HearUsNow.org). Federal regulators are expected to rule on the Comcast-Time Warner merger by the end of the year. So stay tuned.

## BY THE NUMBERS

All consumers are likely to pay more for cable and Internet.

**74%**

agree strongly or somewhat.

The merger will allow Comcast-Time Warner to operate more efficiently and lower prices for consumers.

**16%**

agree strongly or somewhat.

Large mergers like this tend to be good for the economy overall.

**12%**

agree strongly or somewhat.

MAIL TO  
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