



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
DUSTIN MCDANIEL

September 15, 2014

Tom Wheeler, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I would like to express my support for the merger of AT&T and DIRECTV. It is my understanding that the combined company will provide greatly expanded broadband services, including fixed wireless local loop, to underserved rural areas. Arkansas, like other rural states, has lagged behind in implementing broadband on a statewide level. DIRECTV has had a history of consumer issues. AT&T, however, is a trusted leader in the telecommunications industry. With a merger between these two companies, 13 million more Americans in rural areas across the United States will have improved connectivity and improved service.

Rural Arkansans have waited for broadband service for years, but distance, terrain, and demographics have posed major stumbling blocks. The lack of access to rural broadband is a legitimate barrier to equal access to educational opportunities.

I ask that you consider the benefits of accessibility, affordability and quality that this merger would bring to millions of customers, especially those in rural areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dustin McDaniel".

Dustin McDaniel