



CHAMBER of COMMERCE
EASTERN CONNECTICUT

March 3, 2009

The Honorable John W. Fonfara, Co-Chair
The Honorable Vickie Orsini Nardello, Co-Chair
Energy and Technology Committee
Room 3900, Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: H.B. 6608 -- An Act Concerning Consumer Protection in Telecommunications
Companies

Dear Senator Fonfara & Representative Nardello:

The purpose of this letter is to urge your opposition to House Bill No. 6608 An Act Concerning Protection in Telecommunications. We believe this legislation would not benefit customers, but instead adversely affect the competitive telecommunications marketplace in Connecticut.

As you are aware, the Connecticut telecommunications marketplace has changed dramatically over just the last few years. Consumers now have multiple choices for their video services, as well as wireless and wireline phone and high speed Internet. Today's competitive market is far different from the past monopoly markets for which regulation was created.

Imposing additional regulations that would apply to AT&T and not some of their competitors would uneven the playing field and put AT&T at a disadvantage. Fair competition -- not over regulation -- is the best way to make sure customers are protected. If companies fail to provide good service, customers vote with their feet and move their business elsewhere.

Please help maintain Connecticut's competitive telecommunications environment and oppose HB 6608

Sincerely,

Tony Sheridan, President
Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut