



The Alliance for Living is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people affected by HIV/AIDS in New London County.

February 23, 2011

State of Connecticut
Energy and Technology Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 3900
Hartford, CT 06106

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am Sandy Brindamour Executive Director for the Alliance for Living of New County. The Alliance for Living is dedicated to improving the quality of life for affected by HIV/AIDS in New London County. The Alliance accomplishes its through direct services that support the life needs of people affected by HIV/AIDS. Alliance, through its Educational/Prevention Outreach Program, addresses the elimination of HIV/AIDS/STDs in schools, faith-based and civic organizations; of the fastest growing populations, senior centers.

As a provider of promoting quality health care, we at the Alliance operate in a h regulated environment. And while many regulations are necessary and beneficial maintaining a high standard of care throughout the industry, I can tell you from experience that outdated or redundant regulations sap time, energy, and money t otherwise be put to productive use.

We, like the telecom industry, also operate in an environment in which advances technology and techniques can very quickly outpace regulations, leaving behind impenetrable web of often outdated and counterproductive regulations that serve practical purpose for the consumers that they are designed to protect.

For instance, current Connecticut law contains a "price floor" which prohibits A from selling its services below a certain price. While a legitimate rationale exist law when the state opened the telecom market for competition in 1994, almost 20 later, policymakers' expectations that supported that rationale have not been born the market. As a Commercial Lender for the Connecticut Bank & Trust at that ti rationale seemed practical, but not now. As a result, AT&T is hamstrung when it to competing with other providers on price - a result that cannot be in the best int consumers who are looking for the lowest cost telecom services. For good reason vast majority of states in the country do not impose a similar burden, and in fact, the last remaining states, Illinois, just eliminated it.

This requirement, and many of the others contained in this legislation stem from a rewrite of Connecticut's telecom laws which opened the market for competition.

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1994, AT&T held 100% market share whereas today it holds about 45%. Morec
the two decades since the 1994 law was passed, there have been vast changes in
that consumers use telecommunications. Considering these two factors alone, I
common sense dictates that it is time for a re-examination of the 1994 law to fin
what has worked, what has not, and what is simply out-of-date. It is time to upd
laws in a way that reflects a 21st century understanding of the telecom market in
Connecticut.

As we, along with almost every single resident and business in this state, are con
of telecom services, all of us have an interest in seeing these laws and regulation
in a way that provides competition, lessens redundant administrative paperwork
lowers prices for all so AT&T's customers can garner the benefits. I strongly ur
committee to pass Senate Bill 1024, and I hope that the Assembly will follow su

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Brindamour
Executive Director