



Ohio Consumers' Counsel

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Consumers' Counsel

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December 2, 1999

Alan R. Schriber, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus OH 43266

**Re: Ameritech Ohio, Case No. 93-487-TP-ALT;
SBC/Ameritech, Case No. 98-1082-TP-AMT**

Alan
Dear Chairman Schriber:

On November 5, 1999, Ameritech filed a letter with the Commission that offered, at the Commission's option, to extend the Ameritech Ohio USA lifeline plan (known as "USA Plan 1") until January 6, 2003. The offer was made pursuant to one of the conditions adopted by the Federal Communications Commission for approval of the SBC/Ameritech merger.

As the Consumers' Counsel, I strongly urge the Commission to accept Ameritech Ohio's offer. USA Plan 1 has been, and will be, a benefit to low-income consumers residing in Ameritech Ohio territory.

This recommendation is given, however, with the understanding that the program that will be continued will operate under the terms of the Commission's order of December 30, 1998 in Case No. 93-487-TP-ALT, that set forth conditions of the program. The recommendation is also given under the understanding that the Commission will continue its oversight of the program.

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I look forward to working with Ameritech Ohio and the Commission to ensure the operation of a successful lifeline program.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Tongren', written over the words 'Yours truly,'.

Robert S. Tongren
Consumers' Counsel

*CC: Commissioners Fergus, Glazer, Jones, Mason
Parties of record, Cases Nos. 93-487-TP-ALT, 98-1082-TP-AMT*