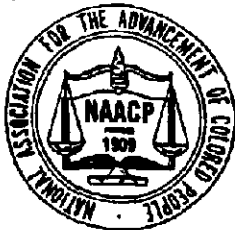


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# OHIO CONFERENCE of NAACP

## National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

614-221-5187 Office • 614-840-0134 Satellite • e-mail: ohnaacpst@myvine.com

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Faith Barnes  
Administrative Assistant

January 19, 2007

Ms. Renee Jenkins  
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio  
Docketing Division  
180 East Broad Street  
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Case No. 02-3069-TP-ALT

Dear Ms. Jenkins:

The Ohio Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) applied for, and was awarded, a grant from AT&T to be a Lifeline Outreach agency only recently. Pleased as I am with the award, I was nevertheless quite disappointed to learn that Lifeline Ohio customers have restrictions placed upon them.

Stated simply and most importantly, I believe your rule that prohibits Lifeline customers from the opportunity to purchase custom calling features is unfair to my clients. All customers, regardless of income level, should have the same options available to them for telecommunications services. Customers should have the right to determine what is best for them - there should not be any disparate treatment because of income.

In addition, I believe there is an unintended and severe consequence of your rule: it suppresses Lifeline enrollment. First, the restriction prevents some existing AT&T customers otherwise eligible for Lifeline from being automatically enrolled into the program because they already have some features on their phone line. Clearly those customers should be admitted into the program.

233 South High Street, Suite 206, Columbus, Ohio 43215

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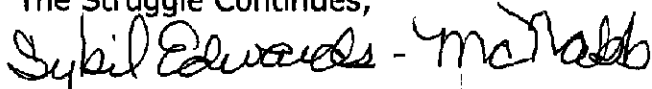
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I hereby certify that the images appearing are an accurate and complete reproduction of a document delivered in the regular course of business.

Second, new customers that otherwise qualify for Lifeline may choose to purchase features and forgo the Lifeline discount. The fact that they believe the features provide them some benefit or convenience to offset the discount does not mean that they are making an unwise financial decision, or that they do not need the discount.

Finally, I want you to know that this type of restriction could be interpreted as a violation to the program participants' civil rights. Given the above, I urge you to approve AT&T's Lifeline waiver request expeditiously.

The Struggle Continues,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sybil Edwards - McNabb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sybil Edwards-McNabb, President  
Ohio Conference NAACP

Cc: file