



June 16, 2014

The Honorable Tim Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

We write to express serious concerns regarding the prospective merger of Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and we ask that the Federal Communications Commission pay particular attention to the negative implications for consumers as it considers this merger. The proposed transaction would consolidate the nation's two largest cable operators, and, if allowed to proceed, would be contrary to the public interest, creating a highly uncompetitive environment for cable and internet services.

This merger would give Comcast control of 30 million subscribers and a nearly 30% share of the cable television and internet service markets throughout the country. Such restricted competition would likely bring higher prices, diminished quality of service, and fewer viewing options for consumers. Comcast would have seemingly unprecedented control over television and internet content that consumers can access. A company of this magnitude would have outsized influence in negotiations with networks over the licensing fees for and the nature of their content, as well as in future lobbying of federal regulatory actions. Even for Americans who do not live in Comcast-serviced areas, the existence of such a dominant provider could have deleterious effects, potentially lowering standards for providers overall.

Indeed, too many consumers already lack a diversity of choices for these services, and we should actively work to expand their menu rather than to limit it further. Comcast and Time Warner Cable are consistently ranked among businesses with the lowest consumer satisfaction. According to the American Customer Satisfaction Index of internet service providers, last year Comcast and Time Warner Cable were ranked the lowest, and the second to lowest, in satisfaction respectively. Diminishing competition for speed, price, and service will only exacerbate the problem of consumers paying for subpar services due to lack of alternatives.

Furthermore, in our modern economy, American innovation is highly dependent on affordable and widely accessible internet service, not only for the companies driving

that innovation but also for the Americans who consume those products and services. After this deal, Comcast would be the only option for most businesses in 19 of the 20 largest American metropolitan areas. Consolidating control of our information superhighways to such a degree has the potential to severely limit the development of cutting edge technologies and our access to them.

Again, as the Federal Communications Commission reviews the details of this proposed merger, we ask that it pay particular attention to the negative implications for consumers. If completed, its ramifications could be felt by individuals, families, and businesses throughout the country. We appreciate your time and consideration of our comments. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Senator Hoylman at 212-633-8052.

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman
NYS Senator



Liz Krueger
NYS Senator



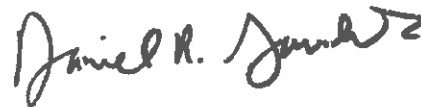
Daniel Squadron
NYS Senator



Deborah J. Glick
NYS Assembly Member



Linda B. Rosenthal
NYS Assembly Member



Daniel R. Garodnick
NYC Council Member



Rosie Mendez
NYC Council Member



Helen Rosenthal
NYC Council Member