



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

August 9, 2000

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Hastert:

Pursuant to Section 257(c) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, enclosed is the required Triennial Report to Congress on market entry barriers in the telecommunications industry.

Section 257, enacted as part of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, directed the Federal Communications Commission to complete a proceeding to identify and eliminate "market entry barriers for entrepreneurs and other small businesses in the provision and ownership of telecommunications services and information services." Pursuant to that mandate, the Commission adopted a report on market entry barriers in the summer of 1997. Section 257 also requires that every three years the Commission review and report to Congress on any regulations it prescribes to eliminate barriers and on any statutory barriers that it recommends be eliminated.

This Triennial Report describes the efforts of the Commission during the past three years to reduce market entry barriers facing entrepreneurs and other small businesses in the telecommunications industry, including revisions in Commission rules and policies, organizational structure, and administrative requirements. A series of studies are also underway to document the kinds of market entry barriers faced by small businesses, and these should be complete by early fall. I will forward copies of the studies to Congress as a supplement to this Report as soon as they are complete.

If you need additional information or have any questions about the Report, please contact Francisco Montero, Director, Office of Communications Business Opportunities, at (202) 418-0990.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William E. Kennard".

William E. Kennard
Chairman

Enclosure