

September 13, 2001

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Recommendations of Consumer/Disability Advisory Committee on Applications for Membership

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Pursuant to Section D. of the Committee's operating protocols, the Committee considers new applications for membership and makes its recommendations concerning appointment of new members to the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission. At its August 2001 meeting the Committee considered applications for membership from the U.S. Telecom Association, the League for the Hard of Hearing, and the Siemens Corporation. After extended discussion, The Committee decided not to recommend any new applicants at this time.

Committee members expressed concern that the Committee was already very large (40 members). Some members felt that the interest of the three applicants were already adequately represented on the Committee, and still others felt that the addition of new industry representatives would further skew the balance between consumer and industry members on the Committee. Others were concerned that it would be inappropriate to recommend additions to the committee at this time, since many applicants were rejected for membership when the Committee was originally constituted.

The Committee does urge these applicants or other interested parties to attend and be heard at meetings of the Committee and to participate on subcommittees and CDTAC email lists. However, such individuals or entities should not be considered as voting members of the CDTAC or its subcommittees. Finally, the Committee recommends that any future membership applications not be considered, unless a vacancy occurs on the Committee. Thank you for your attention to these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Shirley Rooker
Chair, CDTAC

