

ANNISE D. PARKER

HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

AT-LARGE POSITION 1

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

May 10, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Applications for America Online, Inc. and Time Warner, Inc. for Transfers of Control (CS Docket No. 00-30)

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am writing as a concerned citizen regarding the AOL and Time Warner merger. Time Warner is the dominant cable provider in our market and their merger with AOL may greatly impact Houstonians. If the FCC is to approve this merger, protection of consumers is paramount.

As you know, ABC was recently pulled off the air in Houston and was not available to Time Warner Cable Subscribers. My office received numerous complaints from angry citizens. This may have been a precursor to future problems. When two such giants as Time Warner and AOL merge, it is imperative that consumer interests be protected.

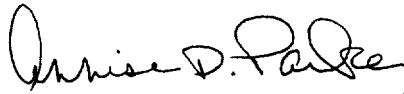
This concern is not limited to television viewing but also to the dominance of available broadband width and internet access. Specifically, I believe that any FCC approval of the AOL/Time Warner merger must include the following:

1. Open access for internet service providers
2. Non-Discriminatory treatment for non Time Warner/AOL content providers with respect to their video distribution system.
3. No discriminatory treatment that undermines advertising opportunities.

Houstonians want to choose their own television and internet programming. They want to decide which programs to watch or what products to download onto their computers. They do not want to have any specific programming forced upon them. I trust that you will keep the interests of the consumer first and foremost in your minds as you review this proposed merger.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Annise D. Parker

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